BE・BOY COMICS

夜想曲
NOCTURNE TAMOTSU TAKAKURE PRESENTS COMICS

夜想曲 ～ノクターン～

／高群保

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ビブロス

後妻の連れ子として大崎家で暮らす笙は冷たい異母弟・隆史に気をつかう毎日。そんな髭に隆史は、辛い打ちをかけるように母親を妻に身体を強要していた。妻とも憎しみともつかない2人の関係は"ピアノ"を挟んでさらに複雑に絡みはじめて…!?

～ノクターン～

夜想曲

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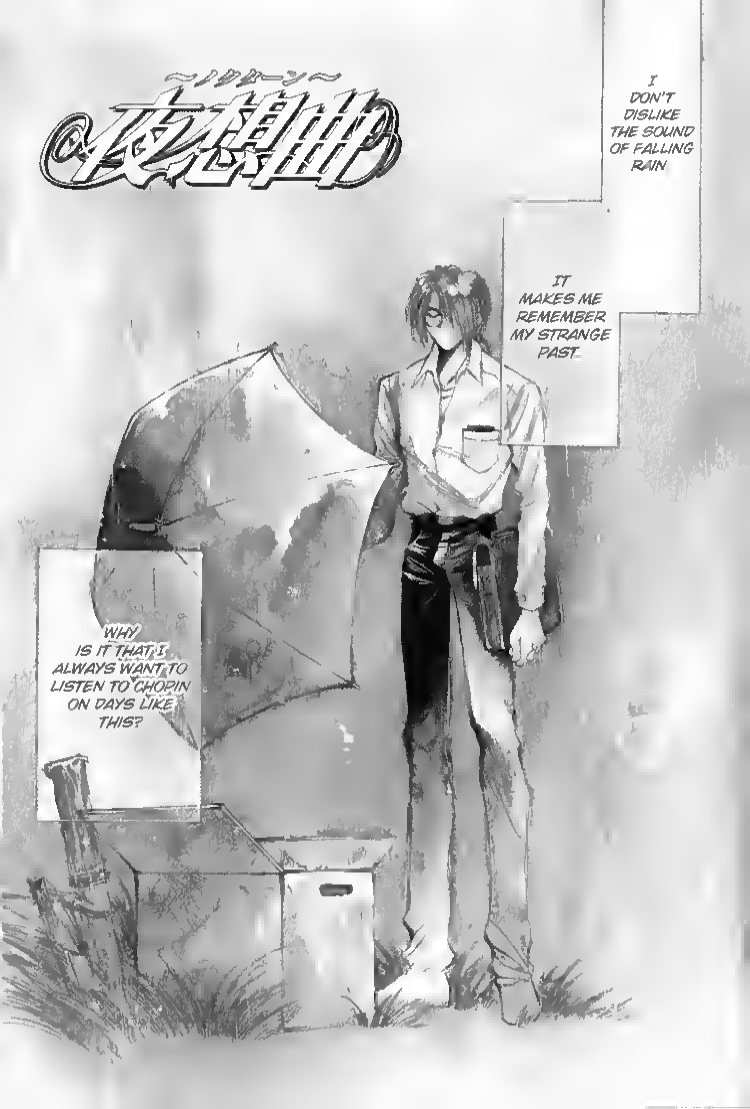
presented by

TAMOTSU TAKAMURE


～リボーン～
I DON'T DISLIKE THE SOUND OF FALLING RAIN
IT MAKES ME REMEMBER MY STRANGE PAST...
WHY IS IT THAT I ALWAYS WANT TO LISTEN TO CHOPIN ON DAYS LIKE THIS?

IT'S EASY.
SEE.
RIGHT?
WHY CAN'T I DO THIS?
IT'S EASY, SHOU.

THE STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING'S OVER YA KNOW
DON'T SLEEP!
WHAT?
UHH.
SHOU!
Ouch!
smack
SHO...
YOU CAN PROBABLY DO IT.
SHO...

EASY-GOING ISN'T HE, THAT SHOU
WHY'S HE SO POPULAR?
Damn womanizer
OHH
REALLY, AKI-CHAN?
Lucky!
THEN WHERE SHALL I KISS HIM? ON THE CHEEK? ON THE FOREHEAD...
Or— maybe
THE... LIPS?
C'mon kiss!
Nooo...
So embarassing!

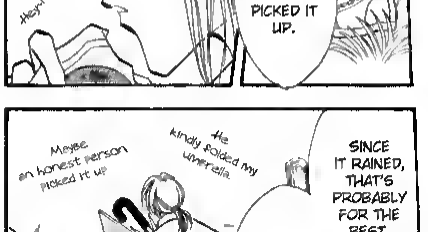
IF WE'RE TALKING ABOUT KISSING SENPAI, I VOLUNTEER!
KYA
Sigh
DON'T WAKE ME
I WAS FINALLY ABOUT TO GET A KISS FROM NAOKO IIJIMA AND KATA HINA.

HE HAS A WAY WITH PEOPLE.
A DELICATE AND FEMININE MAN
Eeh?!
HE'S PRETTY POPULAR.
I DON'T LIKE HIM THOUGH. HE'S SUCH AN IRRESPONSIBLE GUY.
REALLY? I SEE. ♡
ESPECIALLY THE UNDERCLASSMEN SEEM TO THINK HIM MORE LIKE A BIG BROTHER, CALLING HIM SENPAI NO. 1 AND THE LIKES
SOMEHOW I DON'T BELIEVE YOU.

SHOU
COULD YOU TAKE THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S DUTY PRINTOUT FOR ME?
THE PRESIDENT'S GOT A COLD, I HEAR.
PLEASE TELL HIM TO TAKE CARE
AH.
SURE, NO PROB-LEM.
HEY
WHY'S SHOU TAKING THE PRESIDENT'S PRINTOUT HOME?
ARE SHOU AND THE PRESIDENT REALLY THAT CLOSE?
THOSE TWO
YOU IDIOT
YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW?
ARE BROTHERS, YA KNOW

AND I TOOK THE TROUBLE TO SAVE SOME FOOD FOR IT.
THE KITTEN ISN'T HERE.
PERHAPS SOMEONE PICKED IT UP.
Kitty kitty
Hey!

SHOU'S MOTHER
GOT REMARRIED


Maybe an honest person picked it up
He kindly folded my umbrella.
SINCE IT RAINED, THAT'S PROBABLY FOR THE BEST
GOOD THING THERE ARE SOME KIND PEOPLE IN THIS WORLD

BECAUSE TAKASHI IS ALLERGIC TO ANIMALS
BESIDES
I COULDN'T TAKE IT HOME ANYWAY

IF IT'S AN ACT OF IRRES-PONISBLE KINDNESS
PERHAPS, IT'S BEST NOT TO BOTHER AT ALL
hart
clunk
clap
GASP
clap
clap
YOU'RE STILL AS GOOD AS EVER, AREN'T YOU?
SHOU!

I HAD A DREAM ABOUT THE PAST TODAY.
CHOPIN'S NOCTURNE.
ABOUT WHEN WE WERE KIDS.
EVEN THEN YOU COULD PLAY IT SO EASILY.
I COULD...?
YEAH.
DAMN
WELL, I'D ALREADY QUIT PIANO.
I'LL PUT THE PRINTOUT HERE.
HE'S FORGOTTEN

YOU TOLD ME YOU WERE ABOUT TO LEAVE WHEN I SAID I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU.
I LEFT BEFORE YOU TODAY, SO I DIDN'T NOTICE.
YOU HAVE A COLD, DON'T YOU.
IS IT OKAY FOR YOU TO BE UP?
HUH?
"YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S AT FAULT HERE FOR TWISTING MY PERSONALITY."
I SEE
UH.
ISN'T IT UNUSUAL SINCE YOU'RE NEVER LATE OR ABSENT, RIGHT?
Angry Shou.
NEVER-MIND IT WAS NOTHING
passing
Tom

hahaha
ACTUALLY YOU'RE SORT'A AN ONLY CHILD
ALTHOUGH I'M HIS SON, I WAS ADOPTED BY MY STEP-MOTHER.
ON TOP OF THAT, YOU'RE THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT BECAUSE OF YOUR SUPERIOR SCHOOLWORK
YOU ALSO HAVE SECURITY BEING THE HEIR TO THE AMORI FAMILY
WE'RE IN THE SAME GRADE
BUT THAT'S BECAUSE YOU WERE BORN EARLY, SO I'M REALLY YOUR OLDER BROTHER.
IF YOU GET ANGRY ABOUT STUFF LIKE THIS YOU'LL NEVER GET BY IN THIS HOUSE
SILENCE
HA—
WHERE'S MOM?
IT'S LIKE HE LOOKS DOWN ON EVERYONE
ALWAYS LOOKING AT PEOPLE WITH RESENTMENT IN HIS EYES
ILL TEMPERED, AS USUAL

TAKASHI.
HOW UNFORTU-NATE...
TOSHIKO'S OVER THERE.
SHE'S PROBABLY MAKING DINNER OR SOMETHING, ISN'T SHE?
YOU COULD AT LEAST CALL HER "MOM", YA KNOW.
WHAT FOR?
SURE, THAT WOMAN'S YOUR MOTHER AND SHE'S DAD'S WIFE,
BUT SHE'S NOT MY MOM.
SO I'M NOT OBLIGATED TO CALL HER THAT, AM I?

HOW WOULD YOU FEEL ABOUT COMING OVER FOR DINNER SOMETIME?
WELL MOM,
I'LL SEE YOU NEXT WEEK
THANKS FOR YOUR KIND WORDS, BUT NO THANKS.
CREAK
HUG
OH...
THAT'S TRUE, HUH
MY MISTAKE FOR SUGGESTING IT.
UH..
BUT IT'D PROBABLY BE DELICIOUS.
BESIDES, THAT'D MEAN TOSHIKO WOULD HAVE TO MAKE IT. NO WAY!
YOU'RE TAKING SIDES WITH HER?!
giggle
SHE USED TO BE A MAID.
BUT,
COOKING'S HER SPECIALTY, ISN'T IT?
LOOK.
SHALL WE INVITE TOSHIKO-SAN TOO THIS TIME?
Don't joke about it!
THAT LADY DOESN'T HAVE AN OUNCE OF SOPHISTICATION YA KNOW.
I DON'T WANT TO DISGRACE MYSELF.

WELCOME HOME
SHOU
MOM GOT MARRIED 8 YEARS AGO.
WHY'D MY BROTHER HAVE TO GET REMARRIED TO A WOMAN LIKE THAT?
THIS IS DELICIOUS MOM
YOUR COOKING'S THE BEST!
EVEN THOUGH THE MARRIAGE WAS OFFICIALLY COMPLETED THERE WERE NO KIDS AS FOR ME, I NEVER REALLY HAD A FATHER FROM THE START
HERE.
WHAT TERRIBLE MANNERS!
BLE
WHICH WAS HER 1ST MARRIAGE.
WHAT?
NEVERTHELESS, THINGS WERE OKAY
Heavens!
THIS CHILD OF MINE!
ANYONE WHO'D SAY, "I DON'T WANNA EAT GREAT FOOD LIKE THIS" IS A FOOL.
NEVERMIND, IT'S NOTHING

SILENCE
Huh?
I'M HOME!
MOM AND HE SPLIT UP.
EVERYTHING WAS FINE...
IS EVERY-ONE OUT?
THAT'S TOO BAD.
dum

T/N: A piano manufacturer - http://www.boesendorfer.com

BECAUSE NO ONE'S AROUND RIGHT NOW...
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE PLAYED AT HOME.
THIS FEELS SO NICE
TO QUIT WOULD BE SUCH A WASTE!
YOU HAVE A LOT OF TALENT
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE GOOD NOW, IF YOU DON'T CONTINUE TO PRACTICE DILIGENTLY, YOUR FINGERS WILL LOSE DEXTERITY
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
I CAN'T PLAY BETTER THAN TAKASHI.
BUT

THE SOUND OF A PIANO
rustling
I WONDER WHERE IT'S COMING FROM...
GASP
SPLAT
MY FINGERS AREN'T AS NIMBLE AS TAKASHI'S

SILENCE
SHOCK
RUSTLE
HEY YOU.
WAIT A SEC-!
BE CARE-
Eek!
COULD SHE HEAR ME?
WATCH OU-!
SPLASH

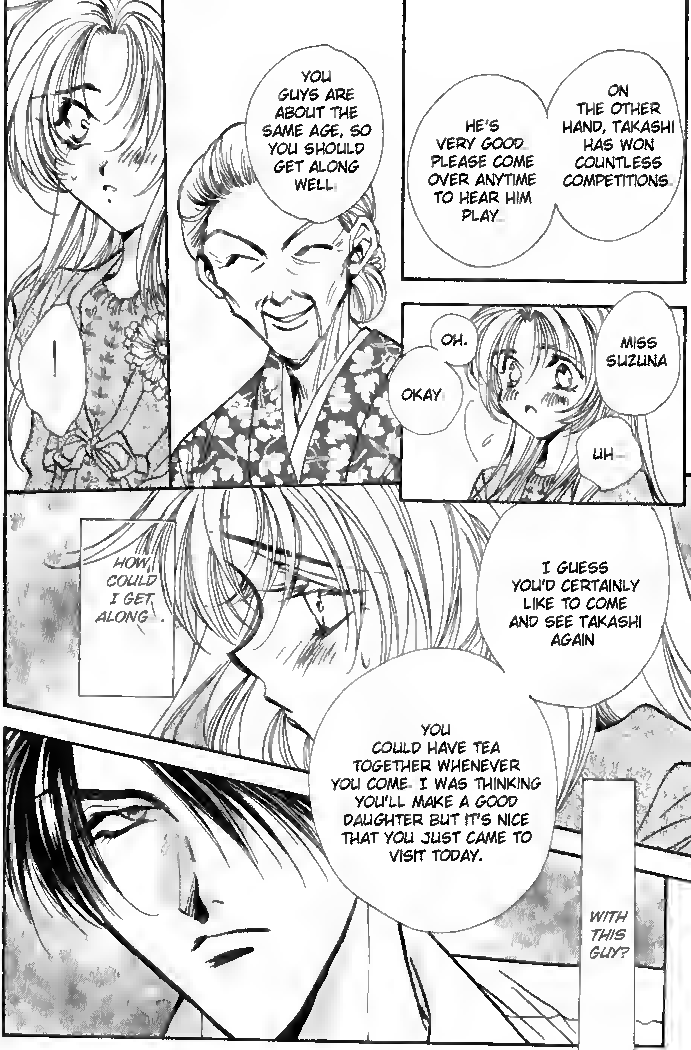
WHAT?
FLUFF
AHA HA HA HA-!
HEAD! YOUR HEAD!
BLUSH
HA..
SOR-
SORRY, I...!
HAHAHAHAHA
WHAT A FUNNY GIRL!
AHH! AHH!
Fish~
SMACK
SHOCK
HUH?
What?
AHA HA HA...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO LAUGH SO HARD

SUCH A BEAUTIFUL PERSON...
WOW...
thadump
thadump
thadump
WHY...
DO I FEEL SO
NER-VOUS
PERHAPS THIS GUY COULD BE MY ?
UH
UM
WHY ?
bu-dum

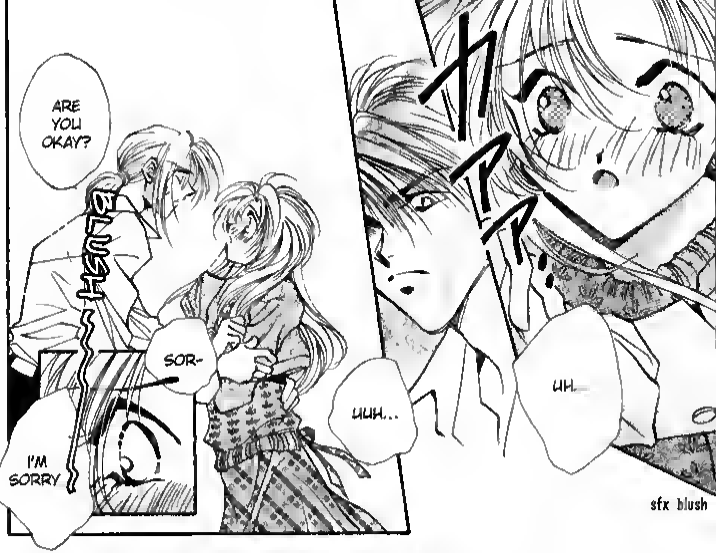
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
ARE YOU..
TAKASHI?
TAKASHI..!
TAKASHI?

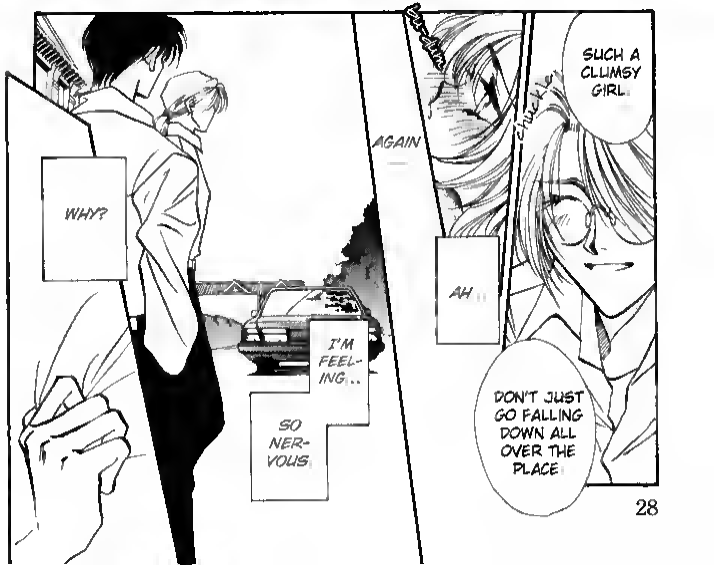
I'M SO SORRY.
I...
I'D HEARD THAT TAKASHI IS GOOD AT PIANO SO,
I THOUGHT SURELY THIS PERSON MUST BE HIM.
click
SHOU?
WHA-?
THAT'S STRANGE
THE ONLY PERSON WHO PLAYS PIANO IN THIS HOUSE IS TAKASHI.
Secret revelation
SHOU
UH...
OH...
SOR-
SORRY ABOUT THAT.

I GUESS I'M MISTAKEN.
I GUESS I WAS JUST HEARING THINGS.
PROBABLY SO
BUT HE PLAYS SO BEAUTIFULLY
BUT WHY?
HE'S KEEPING IT A SECRET,
ABOUT PLAYING THE PIANO
SHOU ALSO USED TO TAKE LESSONS A LONG TIME AGO BUT
I WOULDN'T SAY HE WAS THAT GOOD
HE ENDED UP QUITTING IN MIDDLE SCHOOL
IT BECAME TIRESOME.
SHOU'S ALWAYS LIKE THAT.
HE GETS BORED WITH THINGS EASILY AND NEVER STICKS WITH ANYTHING FOR LONG


YOU GUYS ARE ABOUT THE SAME AGE, SO YOU SHOULD GET ALONG WELL
HE'S VERY GOOD. PLEASE COME OVER ANYTIME TO HEAR HIM PLAY.
ON THE OTHER HAND, TAKASHI HAS WON COUNTLESS COMPETITIONS.
OH.
MISS SUZUNA
OKAY
UH—
I GUESS YOU'D CERTAINLY LIKE TO COME AND SEE TAKASHI AGAIN
HOW I COULD I GET ALONG.
YOU COULD HAVE TEA TOGETHER WHENEVER YOU COME. I WAS THINKING YOU'LL MAKE A GOOD DAUGHTER BUT IT'S NICE THAT YOU JUST CAME TO VISIT TODAY.
WITH THIS GUY?

BECAUSE THIS PERSON...
WHAT DOES HE THINK OF ME?
FROM NOW ON, PLEASE COME TO VISIT FROM TIME TO TIME
dance
WHY DO...
I FEEL LIKE THAT WOULDN'T BE POSSIBLE
FEELS LIKE I'M BEING STARED AT BUT...
TURN
SNAP
Ahh!
Watch out!
!


ARE YOU OKAY?
BLUSH
SOR-
I'M SORRY
UUH...
UH...
sfx blush


SUCH A CLUMSY GIRL
AGAIN
AH
DON'T JUST GO FALLING DOWN ALL OVER THE PLACE
WHY?
I'M FEEL-ING..
SO NER-VOUS

WHY COULDN'T HE BE TAKASHI?
SHE'S A STRANGE ONE, ISN'T SHE.
chuckle
SHE'S CUTE HOW-EVER.
close
HOW SO?!
BECAUSE SHE'S A LITTLE SILLY DOESN'T THAT MAKE HER CUTE?
HUH?
WHAT'S WITH THOSE INJU-RIES?
IF A PIANIST INJURES HIS FIN-GERS, WHAT'S HE TO DO?
IS THERE A COMPETITION COMING UP SOON?
PUSH
!
IS THAT WHAT YOU'D PREFER?

YOU THINK GRANDMA JUST WANTS ME TO HAVE SOME SCHOOLGIRL AS A TEA-DRINKING PARTNER?
MAN IS HE SOUR!
WHA?
MY PREFERENCE YOU SAY..?
I THINK GRANDMA WAS BEING GENUINE ABOUT BEING FRIENDS WITH MISS SUZUNA.
ARE YOU STUPID?
WHAT?
SHE'S MY FIANCE YA KNOW.
IT'S ALL ABOUT OUR ENGAGEMENT..
"HANDS OFF MY FIANCE."
IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?
THEN...
OH-
IT'S NOT A BAD ARRANGEMENT, AND GRANDMA WANTS IT TOO, RIGHT?
SHE'S THE DAUGHTER OF THE PRESIDENT OF HAYAKAWA PRODUCTION CO.

GRRR
Don't say anything bad about mom!
WELL, PROMISCUITY DOES RUN IN YOUR MOTHER'S BLOOD NOW, DOESN'T IT?
YOU'RE CERTAINLY QUICK WITH WOMEN
BOTH AT SCHOOL AND AT HOME
!!
DIDN'T SHE HAVE AN ILLEGITIMATE CHILD?
HMPH
WHAT MAKES YOU SAY SHE'S PROMISCUOUS?

SOMEBODY STOP THEM!
Eeeek!
MASTER TAKASHI! MASTER SHOU!
sfx whomp
I'M SORRY.

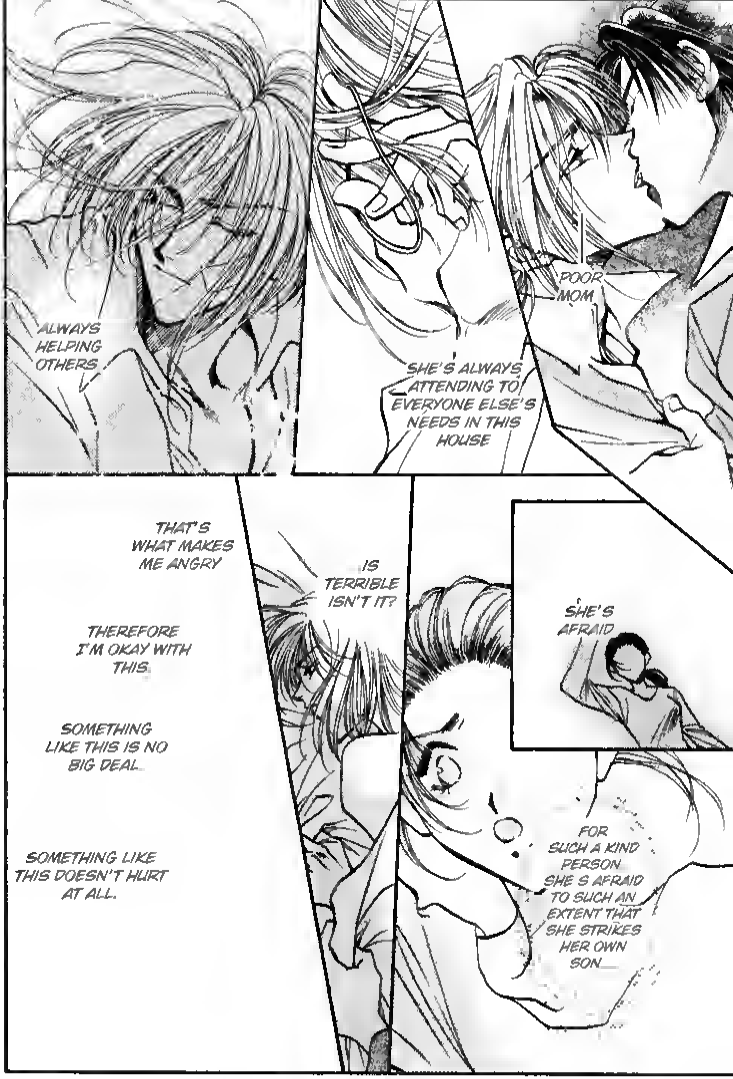
WHAT IN THE WORLD HAPPENED?
BUT NOW YOU'VE MADE TAKASHI ANGRY..
EVEN THOUGH I'VE TOLD YOU TO GET ALONG WITH HIM...
IT WAS WRONG OF ME, MOM.
SO STOP CRYING
MOM IS...
MOM STILL SPEAKS OF TAKASHI SO HONORIFICALLY SOMETIMES
I'M SORRY
MOM
I'VE NO EXCUSE, BUT..
...I'M TO BLAME
EVEN NOW... WHY DOES MOM STILL RESIGNS HERSELF TO SERVING THE MORIKE FAMILY?
APOLOGIZE FOR ME, WOULD YA...
...TO TAKASHI.

TAKASHI,
IS IT OKAY IF I COME IN?
tap
tap
ALWAYS ...
EVEN AFTER THIS, SHE PROBABLY WON'T CHANGE
WITH-OUT
FAIL.
SO I'LL JUST COME TO YOUR ROOM WHEN I'M DONE.
NO
BECAUSE MY ROOM'S A MESS RIGHT NOW
I MIGHT HAVE SOME STUFF TO TAKE CARE OF
cough
cough
SO HIS COLD'S ... NOT BETTER YET?

THE SON OF A SERVANT AND...
ON THAT DAY, ALL OF A SUDDEN, TAKASHI AND I BECAME BROTHERS
THE SON OF THE OWNER OF THIS HOUSE
IT'S BEEN LIKE THAT AS FAR BACK AS I CAN REMEMBER
CRASH
THERE'S NO EXCUSE FOR NOT BECOMING ACCUSTOMED TO BEING BROTHERS
SHOU! BROKE MY PLASTIC MODEL!
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
BUT MOM, THAT'S CAUSE TAKASHI BROKE MY MODEL FIRST!
SHOU!
SCRATCH

APOLOGIZE...!
SHOU...!
WHAT DID YOU DO TO TAKASHI?
APOLOGIZE!!
ALWAYS
ALWAYS
THE ONE WHO APOLO-GIZES
...IS ME, BUT...

IS THAT MILK I SMELL?
YEAH.
YOU CAME TO APOLOGIZE, DIDN'T YOU?
EAR-LIER..
IT WON'T EVER CHANGE
AS FOR THAT, REGARDLESS OF WHO'S WRONG..
YOU KNOW IN WHAT WAY YOU'RE GOING TO EARN MY FORGIVENESS, DON'T YOU.
MOM IS...
..AH


ALWAYS HELPING OTHERS
POOR MOM
SHE'S ALWAYS ATTENDING TO EVERYONE ELSE'S NEEDS IN THIS HOUSE
THAT'S WHAT MAKES ME ANGRY
IS TERRIBLE ISN'T IT?
THEREFORE I'M OKAY WITH THIS.
SOMETHING LIKE THIS IS NO BIG DEAL.
SOMETHING LIKE THIS DOESN'T HURT AT ALL.
SHE'S AFRAID
FOR SUCH A KIND PERSON SHE S AFRAID TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT SHE STRIKES HER OWN SON...

I'M INDIFFERENT, THEREFORE
U...!
grab
..HAA..
NOT YET
WHY.
squeeze
-A-
...!
...!
...KU
pant

SO...
I JUST WANT TO SEE YOUR CRYING FACE!
...DO THIS SORT OF THING TO ME?
IT'S STRANGE, Y KNOW! THIS SORT OF THING...!
WHY... DO YOU ALWAYS ..
I HATE EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU.
IT'S TRUE.
I...
I...
..HATE YOU
THERE-FORE ..!

whisper
JUST NOW
zzzzzz
IT CAME FROM TAKASHI'S ROOM
squeak

meow
A VOICE
glance
HA.. HA..
IT'S...
YOU.
THE OTHER DAY WHEN IT RAINED..!
meow
meow
HE..?

YOU SMELL LIKE MILK.
Chuckle
TAKASHI
meow
YOU'RE STILL A BABY, AREN'T YOU
BECAUSE OF YOUR ANIMAL ALLERGY...
ALSO.
..YOU MISSED SCHOOL.
THOSE CUTS ON YOUR FINGERS.
WHAT WAS WITH THOSE SOUR FACES HE WAS MAKING...
THAT IDIOT.
HA...
HAHA.
WHY?
.....HA

WHY COULDN'T HE BE MORE OF A BAD GUY?

I NEVER THOUGHT OF CHANGING ANYTHING, OR THOUGHT THAT ANYTHING COULD BE CHANGED

AND SO, I DIDN'T REALISE THAT MANY THINGS HAVE STARTED TO CHANGE

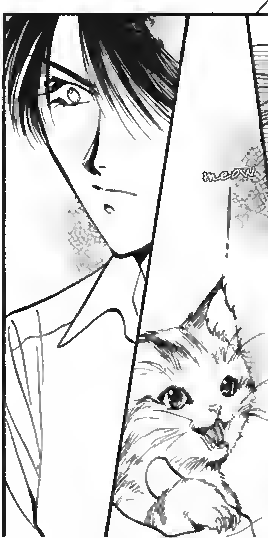
WHAT IS THIS?!
THIS!!
meow
non
plussed
WHAT?
IT'S A CAT... GRANDMA
SHOU!
WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS LIKE THIS?!

YOU KNOW VERY WELL THAT TAKASHI HAS AN ALLERGY TO ANIMALS, RIGHT?

AND YET...!

APPEAR

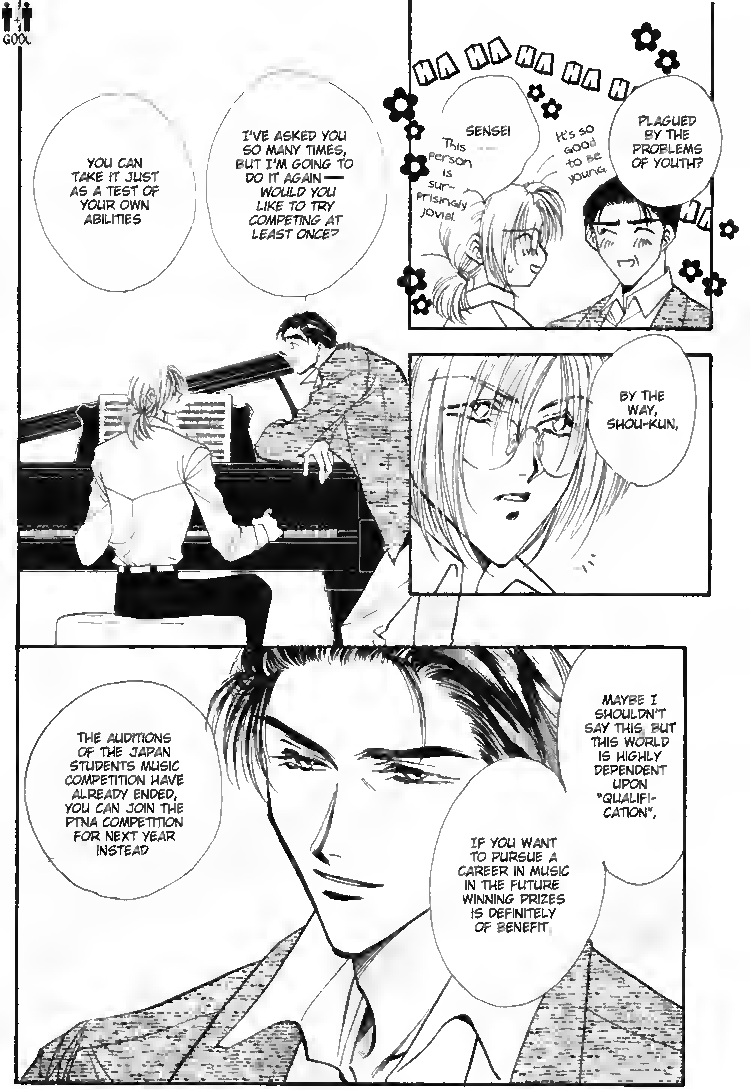
WHAT'S GOING ON?



GRANDMA,
I WAS THE ONE WHO BROUGHT THAT KITTEN BACK
EH?
I KEPT COUGHING WHEN I KEPT IT WITH ME, SO,
I ASKED SHOU TO HELP ME LOOK AFTER IT
AH...
OH!
I SEE...
TAKASHI HAS A KIND HEART, SO HE COULDN'T HAVE TURNED A BLIND EYE TO IT, RIGHT?
JEEZ,
SHOU, YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME THAT EARLIER!
FOR DOING THE SAME THING, TAKASHI "HAS A KIND HEART", WHILE I AM "UNCARING AND INCONSIDERATE"
HEY HEY
TAKASHI

YOU'RE USUALLY DOWN EARLIER THAN ME, WHY ARE YOU SO LATE TODAY?
WERE YOU BUSY SEARCHING FOR THIS BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T FIND IT THIS MORNING?
OOPS.
OH NO I MADE HIM ANGRY?
SHOU, YOUR BENTO
THANKS, MUM!
I'M LEAVING!
BOOM
HE'S SO GENTLE TO THE CAT
YOU forgot your bento!
...!
TAKA-SHI
HURR

WHY ARE YOU THIS COLD TO ME ONLY?
YOU SEEM TO HAVE TROUBLE CONCENTRATING TODAY.
Sigh.
Prot@!
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS LOOK AT ME WITH THAT SORT OF EYES?
SORRY TO HAVE MADE YOU WASTE YOUR EFFORT, TAKING TIME OUT FROM YOUR BUSY SCHEDULE TO COACH ME
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
IT'S UNAVOIDABLE THAT THERE'LL BE TIMES LIKE THIS.


NA NA NA NA
SENSEI
This person is surprisingly jovial.
It's so good to be young.
PLAGUED BY THE PROBLEMS OF YOUTH?
I'VE ASKED YOU SO MANY TIMES, BUT I'M GOING TO DO IT AGAIN — WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY COMPETING AT LEAST ONCE?
YOU CAN TAKE IT JUST AS A TEST OF YOUR OWN ABILITIES
BY THE WAY, SHOU-KUN,
MAYBE I SHOULDN'T SAY THIS, BUT THIS WORLD IS HIGHLY DEPENDENT UPON "QUALIFICATION".
IF YOU WANT TO PURSUE A CAREER IN MUSIC IN THE FUTURE WINNING PRIZES IS DEFINITELY OF BENEFIT.
THE AUDITIONS OF THE JAPAN STUDENTS MUSIC COMPETITION HAVE ALREADY ENDED, YOU CAN JOIN THE PTNA COMPETITION FOR NEXT YEAR INSTEAD

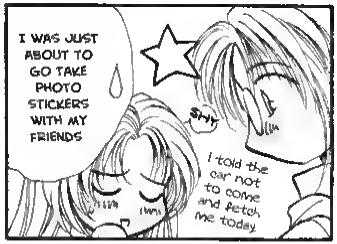
SENSEI,
AS I HAVE SAID PREVIOUSLY,
I DO NOT PLAN ON BECOMING A MUSICIAN.
FALL
SO, IS THAT ALL FOR TODAY?
SHOU-KUN!
SH
OCK
SENSEI, I'M VERY GRATEFUL TO YOU,
AT THAT TIME, FOUR YEARS AGO, IF IT WASN'T FOR YOU, I WOULD HAVE DEFINITELY GIVEN UP ON THE PIANO.
THEN, WHY...?

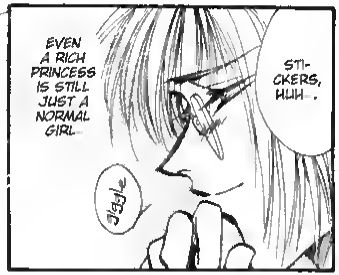
BECAUSE THERE IS SOMEONE MORE IMPORTANT THAN PIANO

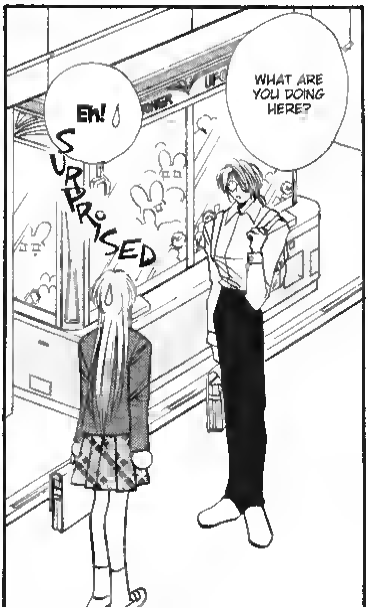
SLAM
SHOU-KUN,
...
SAYING THAT YOU DON'T HAVE TALENT...
I'LL BE GOING THEN
BOW
AH, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
SHOU-KUN...
SHAKE
MOREOVER, I DON'T HAVE THE TALENT FOR IT. ♡
JUST KIDDING, I JUST CAN'T BE BOTHERED ♡

THAT WOULD BE BAD...
No way that can't happen.
IF I JOIN COMPETITIONS, WON'T I BE GOING HEAD-TO-HEAD WITH TAKASHI?
SAYING SUCH A THING.
YOU ARE JUST BEING SARCASTIC, AREN'T YOU?
I WOULD RATHER THEY THINK I'VE SNEAKED OUT TO PLAY.
SOMETIMES I WOULD LIE THAT I'M GOING FOR JUKU CLASSES, AND THEN SNEAK TO THE MUSIC CLASSROOM
I WOULD SKIP CLASSES AT TIMES TO ATTEND LESSONS WITH SENSE!
YUP!
カラオケ
2F△VIDEO
3F
WHY WOULD I DO ALL THIS, JUST TO CONTINUE PLAYING THE PIANO?
WHY

Ah...
UFO☆CATCHE
SHOU-SAN?
Suzana is that your Aah! friend?
Aah!
AH... YOU..
YOU'RE SUZUNA-CHAN!
ciao


I WAS JUST ABOUT TO GO TAKE PHOTO STICKERS WITH MY FRIENDS
SHH
I told the car not to come and fetch me today


EVEN A RICH PRINCESS IS STILL JUST A NORMAL GIRL
STI-CKERS, HUH..
Jiggle


WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
EH!
SURPRISED

DANG!
COUPLE PHOTO FOR THE TWO OF YOU
STA~RE
Was forced to take one.
I'm so happy
DON'T BE SHY!
KYA KYA
I AM...
Eh?
LET'S TAKE THE PHOTO TOGETHER! ♡
SUZUNA'S BOYFRIEND?
Blushes
SO SMALL, SO CUTE!
WAAH ♡
It's a kitten!
A pink lump of flesh ♡
meow
I AM...
UH,
This is the opposite direction from your house.
SHOU-SAN, WHAT ARE YOU HERE FOR?
CARRERA

It's really too cute ♡
HEY,
CAN IT EAT ON ITS OWN?
NOT YET
I'll try to give it bread curb
IT SEEMS THAT IT CAN'T SEE CLEARLY YET,
IT'S REALLY JUST A NEWBORN.
IT CAN'T STAND UP STRAIGHT YET!
SO, I HAVE TO FEED IT MILK WITH A DROPPER LIKE THAT
Drink up!
suck suck
That's really adorable...
I really feel a cat like that before.
I'M CURRENTLY SEARCHING FOR AN OWNER FOR THIS CUTIE
IS THERE ANY ONE OF YOU THAT WANTS TO...
smile
smile

I—
IF YOU LIKE,
I—
SHOU-SAN.
HMM.
AH!
FAILED AGAIN.
I PROBABLY CAN'T ASK MY OWN CLASS-MATES, TOO
HU
AH,
SEE YOU TOMOR-ROW!!
BYE, SUZUNA!
STRUCK
They run away really fast.

GOOL
prong~
BECAUSE IT'S REALLY CUTE
IF YOU DON'T MIND, I WOULD LIKE TO KEEP THE CAT, PLEASE
SENSEI
YOU'RE PLAYING PRETTY WELL TODAY, SHOU-KUN
NO
SO
Sensei
In love with a cute girl? Ah the pleasures of youth
DID SOMETHING GOOD HAPPEN? ♡

Open
HAS HE FINALLY GIVEN UP?
RECENTLY, SENSEI DOES NOT BRING UP THE COMPETITION ANYMORE.
ALL RIGHT, I'LL SEE YOU NEXT WEEK AGAIN THEN

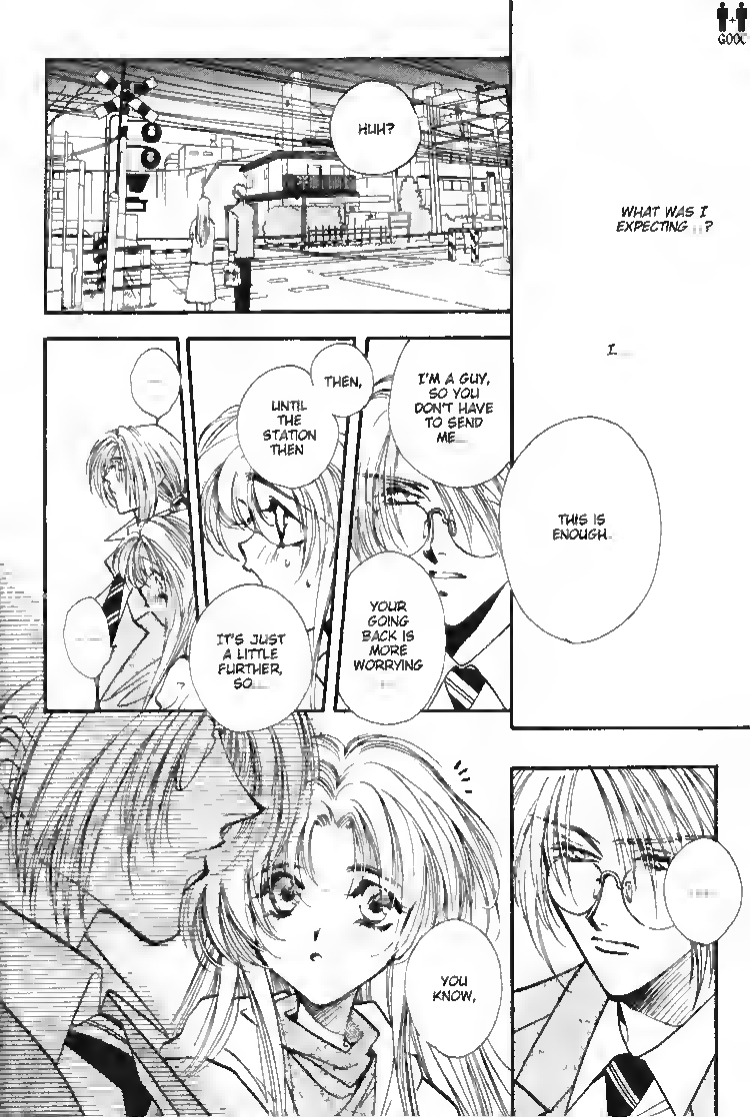
IT'S STILL SUCH A BIG HOUSE
Even though mine is big, too
YOU'RE REALLY TOO NAÏVE
EVEN IF YOU WON'T JOIN THE COMPETITION, THERE'S STILL THE TAPED AUDITIONS.

drip
drip...
IT'S REALLY LEARNT TO DRINK ON ITS OWN.
SEE?
SHOU-SAN, WELCOME!
YOU'RE HERE EARLY TODAY
RECENTLY, IT CAN DRINK FROM A PLATE,
OH?
AND THE COLOUR OF ITS EYES HAS BECAME CLEARER
meow
THE TEA'S READY
OK!

KIND PARENTS,
A BIG HOUSE, A LIFE THAT LACKS NOTHING,
A WARM HOME
HOW NICE...
LIKE THIS
SOME-HOW, IT'S REALLY RELAX-ING
SHOU-SAN?
HUH?
Hah
?
questioning

AH...
SORRY!
I WAS DAYDREAMING THERE.
stare
HUH?
AH!
OF COURSE..
IT'S ALL THE WAY INSIDE, ON THE RIGHT.
bl
-ush
AH...
CAN I BORROW YOUR WASHROOM FOR A BIT?
Splash
I...
DON'T TELL ME I...
TOWARDS HER...
OH NO...
I DIDN'T MEAN THAT...

YES .
SUZUNA-CHAN
IT'S ALL RIGHT IF YOU'RE GOOD FRIENDS WITH SHOU-KUN. BUT HE'S A TAG-ALONG CHILD, RIGHT?
SO,
whisper
OF COURSE,
SHOU-KUN IS A GOOD CHILD, TOO, SO I'M NOT SAYING YOU CAN'T BE FRIENDS WITH HIM
THE ONE WHO WILL INHERIT THE AMORI FAMILY FORTUNE IS TAKASHI-SAN, SO
YES...
JUST DON'T FORGET THAT THE ONE YOU ARE ENGAGED TO IS TAKASHI-SAN


HUH?
WHAT WAS I EXPECTING...?
I...
THIS IS ENOUGH.
I'M A GUY, SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO SEND ME...
YOUR GOING BACK IS MORE WORRYING
THEN, UNTIL THE STATION THEN
IT'S JUST A LITTLE FURTHER, SO...
YOU KNOW,

YES, IT WAS VERY SCARY
DON'T ...
DON'T TELL ME YOU ARE TELLING ME SOME SCARY STORY?!
GAH!
SHIVER
I'M MOST AFRAID OF SUCH STORIES!
AS IF SHE WAS PREPARED TO RUSH PASS THAT BARRIER ANYTIME
ONCE, THERE WAS A MOTHER, HOLDING HER CHILD'S HAND, AND STANDING AT THAT CROSSING,
KYA ...
KYA
KYA
ON DUSKS LIKE THIS, I'LL RECALL IT
AT THAT TIME, MY MOTHER MUST HAVE BEEN ABOUT TO DASH OUT ONTO THE TRACKS

I DON'T HAVE MANY MEMORIES FROM WHEN I WAS A CHILD,
BUT, I STILL REMEMBER...
MUM THE TRAIN...
-HA -HA
SQUEEZE
LET'S GO
SO-
SORRY!
SHOCK
UH...
UWAA.
OUCH...!
SORRY, SHOU!

I'M SO SORRY...
THE REASON I CRIED WAS NOT BECAUSE MY HAND WAS IN PAIN.
I'M SORRY, I'M SORRY
SHOU
IT WAS BECAUSE I WAS SCARED BY MOTHER...
AT THAT TIME...
SHE MUST HAVE BEEN IN SOME SORT OF DIFFICULTY
SO, WHEN I WAS YOUNG, I KEPT WISHING THAT I'LL HURRY UP AND GROW UP, SO THAT I CAN PROTECT HER.
MOREOVER, HER HEART WAS ALSO VERY WEAK.
MY MOTHER GAVE BIRTH TO ME OUT OF THE WEDLOCK. SHE MUST HAVE HAD MANY PEOPLE POINTING THEIR FINGERS AT HER, AND BEEN LIVING IN LOTS OF DIFFICULTY.

IF I HADN'T EXISTED, WOULD MUM HAVE BEEN HAPPIER?
WHAT I NOW THINK IS,
BUT I'VE CHANGED
NOW .
THEN .

MOTHER HADN'T GIVEN BIRTH TO ME WOULD SHE BE LIVING BLISSFULLY NOW?
IF

IT MAKES ME SO ENVIOUS
AS IF SHE'S NEVER GONE THROUGH ANY ORDEALS
SHE REALLY LOOKS TOO HAPPY
I KNOW THAT TELLING HER ALL THESE WOULD ONLY CAUSE HER TO BE TROUBLED,
BUT
ACTUALLY, I'M JUST TAKING OUT ALL MY FRUSTRATIONS ON HER.
I STARTED TO THINK, WHY AM I THE ONLY ONE THAT'S SO UNFORTUNATE ...
THIS ..
CAN IT BE THAT THIS HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH YOUR NOT PLAYING PIANO IN FRONT OF THE OTHERS?
SO..

SHOU-SAN,
SO,
I CAN'T HELP IT,
I DON'T THINK THAT THERE'S ANYONE THAT "SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN BORN".
BUT WANT TO BULLY HER A LITTLE
PLEASE DON'T THINK THAT WAY AND BECOME SUCH A PERSON.
AND AM ALSO VERY GLAD TO HAVE MET YOU.
I'M VERY HAPPY THAT THERE'S SHOU-SAN IN THIS WORLD
EVEN SO, YOU STILL SMILE AT ME
...RIGHT?
JUST THIS REASON
IS ENOUGH, ISN'T IT?

FALL
YOU'RE DIFFERENT FROM TAKASHI, YOU SHOW ME YOUR SMILE...
SHOU-SAN, DO YOU HATE THE PIANO?

SLAM
shock
I DON'T HATE IT.
I REALLY LIKE LISTENING TO SHOU-SAN PLAY THE PIANO
CAN YOU PLAY IT AGAIN FOR ME SOME OTHER TIME?
I DON'T, BUT...

TOSHIKO SAYS THAT DINNER IS READY.
SHOU.
TAKASHI
!
WHAT . IS THIS?!
?!
WITH MY FIANCÉE...!
GIVE IT BACK TO ME!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!
YOU'RE REALLY THE SAME AS YOUR MOTHER!
WHEN DID YOU... ?

!
YOU BOYS ARE FIGHTING AGAIN?
STOP PLEASE!
SHARP PAIN
!
MO THER?
MUM!!

HER CONDITION IS PRETTY BAD.
AH...
MUM HAS HAD ATTACKS?
UMM...
HUH...?
WHAT ...
DIDN'T YOU KNOW?
THERE'S BEEN MANY ATTACKS TILL NOW.
AND THE FREQUENCY OF THEM HAS BEEN INCREASING.

I..
HOW COULD I HAVE NOT REALISED SUCH A THING?
SHE HAS TO STAY FOR A CHECK-UP TODAY.
NOT AT ALL.
HER FAMILY MEMBERS CAN GO BACK FIRST THOUGH.
EVEN THOUGH WE'RE FAMILY —

OH...
WHERE'S FATHER AND GRANDMA?
IT'S IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT AFTER ALL.
THEY'VE GONE BACK TO THEIR OWN ROOMS ALREADY.
WHY AREN'T YOU GOING BACK TO YOUR ROOM YET?
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?
NO...
OR DO YOU STILL WANT TO TALK ABOUT SUZUNA-CHAN?
JERK
BECAUSE IT'S RARE THAT I SEE THIS EXPRESSION OF YOURS
PLEASE, LET US DO IT TOMORROW INSTEAD. I'M VERY TIRED.

GOOL
SO WHAT EXPRESSION DO I HAVE NOW PLEASE TELL ME?
DO YOU WANT TO TELL ME THAT MY FLUSTERED AND LOST EXPRESSION IS VERY SHAMEFUL?
MY MOTHER HAS COLLAPSED
DO YOU THINK I CAN ACT AS IF EVERYTHING'S FINE?
WHY DIDN'T I NOTICE IT?
SHE'S MY MOTHER,
SHE'S MY OWN MOTHER!
SHE HAS HEART PROBLEMS
THE NEXT TIME SHE RELAPSES,
IT MIGHT BE FATAL —
WHY—
SHOU?
SHOCK

AND WITH THAT
SHE.
SHOU...
CLENCH
SHE MIGHT DIE!
MIGHT...
THAT'S RIGHT
IN THIS COLD FAMILY WITH WHOM I HAVE NO BLOOD RELATIONS,
IF,
MOTHER DIES,
I WILL.
I'LL BE —

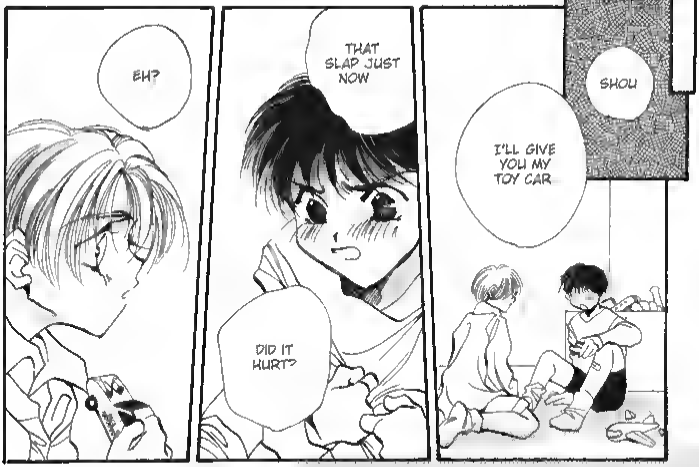
IN THIS F MILY,
I'LL BE ALL ALONE.
...SHOU

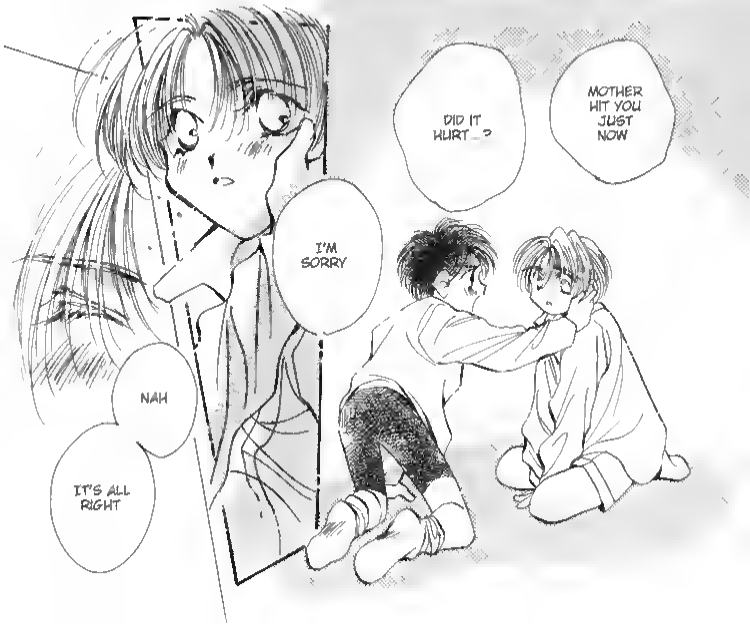
...AH?
TAKASHI?
NN...
N...!
...?!
WHA..
THUNK

collapse
...!
WHY ARE YOU MAKING THAT FACE ..?
TAKA..SHI?
SHOW ME THAT COLD LAUGH THAT YOU ALWAYS DO!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT FACE YOU ARE SHOWING ME RIGHT NOW?
COLD?
YOU'RE THE ONE THAT'S ALWAYS COLD, AREN'T YOU?
WHEN YOU SHOW ME THAT FACE, I ..
THIS GUY
WHAT IS HE SAYING ..?

YOU'RE ONE TO TALK. WHY ARE YOU MAKING THAT FACE?
AS IF YOU'RE GOING TO CRY ANYTIME
TAKA...SHI...
WHEN I SEE THAT HELPLESS EXPRESSION, LIKE THAT OF A CHILD'S, ON YOU,
I—
STRANGE
I DON'T DISLIKE DOING THIS AS MUCH AS I NORMALLY DO.

AND TAKASHI'S VERY GENTLE TODAY...
...TAKASHI AND I BOTH...
...ARE STRANGE...
...SHOU.


EH?
THAT SLAP JUST NOW
DID IT HURT?
SHOU
I'LL GIVE YOU MY TOY CAR


DID IT HURT_?
MOTHER HIT YOU JUST NOW
I'M SORRY
NAH
IT'S ALL RIGHT

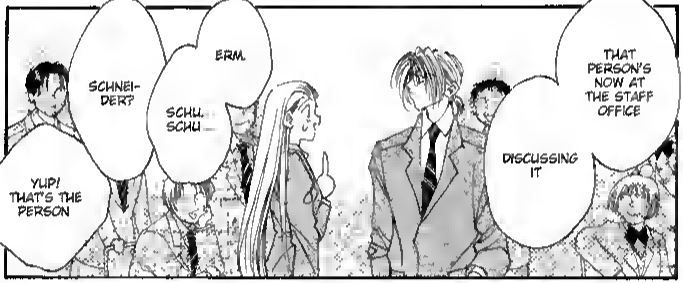
Cheep
Cheep
Cheep
...!
IT'S ALL RIGHT, TAKASHI.

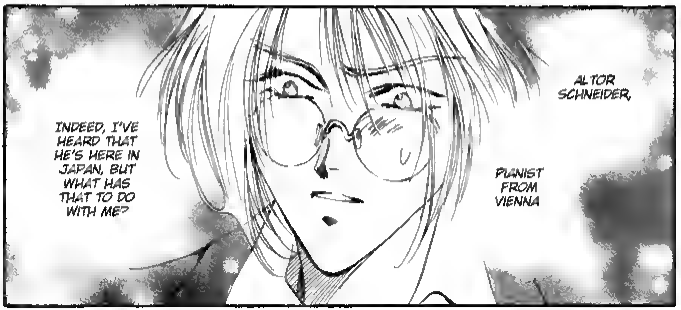
HE WAS GENTLE, LIKE HE WAS LAST NIGHT.
IN THE PAST, TAKASHI WAS DIFFERENT.
THAT'S RIGHT.
CLATTER
WHEN DID HE START CHANGING?
GOOD MORNING.
GOOD MORNING.
YOU'RE EARLY TODAY.
WHERE'S TAKASHI?
HE'S NOT AWAKE YET.
I SEE
I'LL GO BEFORE I BUMP INTO HIM
BUSY

SOME-
HOW, IT
FEELS
KINDA
AWK-
WARD.
I'M GOING!
TAKASHI HAS
CHANGED.
BUT ISN'T
IT THE
SAME FOR
ME, TOO?
AS TAKASHI
SAID I HID
EVERYTHING
BEHIND MY
SMILE.
NO MATTER
HOW HURT I
AM, OR HOW
INFERIOR I
FEEL I WON'T
SHOW IT.
I'LL SHOW
A "I'M FINE"
FACE, AND
PROTECT MY
PRIDE WITH
A LAUGH

CHAOS
HE'S HERE!
AMORI-KUN!
AMAZING!
WHA-
WHAT?
WE'VE HEARD ABOUT IT!
...I CAN'T LAUGH LIKE THAT TOWARDS TAKASHI ANY-MORE

YOU'RE GOING TO STUDY IN GERMANY?!
KYA
Germany
MOREOVER, BY VIRTUE OF YOUR PIANO SKILLS!
!
WHA...
DID YOU SAY?
EH! YOU'RE KIDDING!
DIDN'T YOU KNOW?


THAT PERSON'S NOW AT THE STAFF OFFICE
DISCUSSING IT
ERM...
SCHNEIDER?
SCHU... SCHU...
YUP! THAT'S THE PERSON


ALTOR SCHNEIDER,
PIANIST FROM VIENNA
INDEED, I'VE HEARD THAT HE'S HERE IN JAPAN, BUT WHAT HAS THAT TO DO WITH ME?

OH NO!
TAKA-SHI,
THIS IS—
OH—!
AMORI FROM CLASS A!
YOUR BROTHER IS AMAZING!
TAKASHI
-knock-
!
SO SHOU PLAYS THE PIANO, TOO—
TAKASHI-KUN IS KNOWN FOR HIS PIANO PLAYING, SO WHEN WE HEARD ABOUT IT, WE THOUGHT IT WAS REFERRING TO TAKASHI-KUN.
?!
BOTH BROTHERS ARE SO TALENTED!
WOW, AS EXPECTED
AH.
SHOU HAS,
FROM A LONG TIME AGO, ALWAYS
BEEN BETTER THAN ME

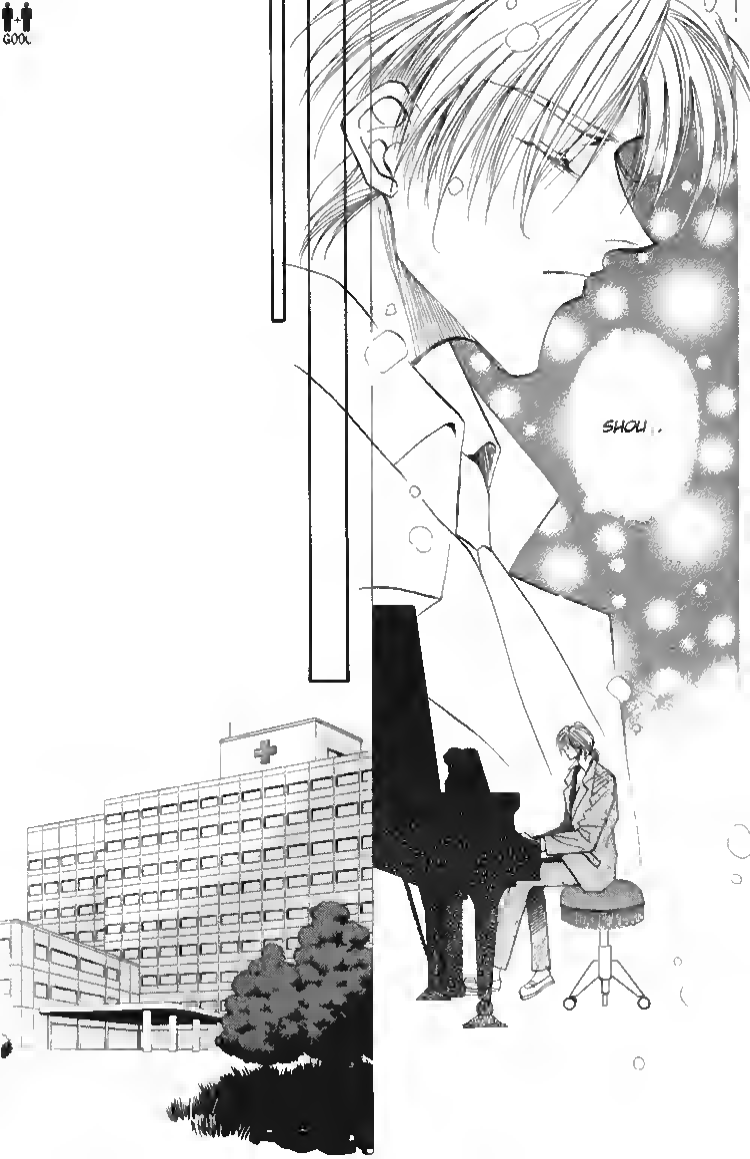
AMORI!
SENSEI'S CALLING FOR YOU!
TAKASHI KNEW...
WHY DIDN'T HE SAY ANYTHING TILL NOW ?
I HAVE BEEN CONTINUING TO PLAY THE PIANO ALL THIS WHILE,
WHEN DID TAKASHI COME TO KNOW OF IT?
SHOU-KUN!
clatter

SENSEI
THIS IS ALL YOUR DOING, RIGHT...?!
REALISATION
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
HE SAID THAT HE ABSOLUTELY WANTED TO LISTEN TO YOU PLAY HIMSELF, SO I BROUGHT HIM TO SCHOOL
IT'S THE SAME IN SCHOOL, TOO
YOU DON'T LIKE TO PLAY AT HOME, RIGHT?
But it looks like I don't have a choice already...
NAH~
I JUST SENT YOUR TAPE RECORDING TO MR SCHNEIDER
BECAUSE YOU REFUSED TO JOIN THE COMPETITION AUDITIONS

OI!
SHOU IS GOING TO PLAY THE PIANO AT THE MUSIC ROOM!
EH—
LET'S GO AND LISTEN!
HEY, TAKASHI
AREN'T YOU GOING, TOO?
NAAH..
SHOU WON'T LIKE IT, SO..
MUSIC ROOM
Whoosh

SOMEHOW
SHOU-KUN FEELS DIFFERENT FROM NORMAL

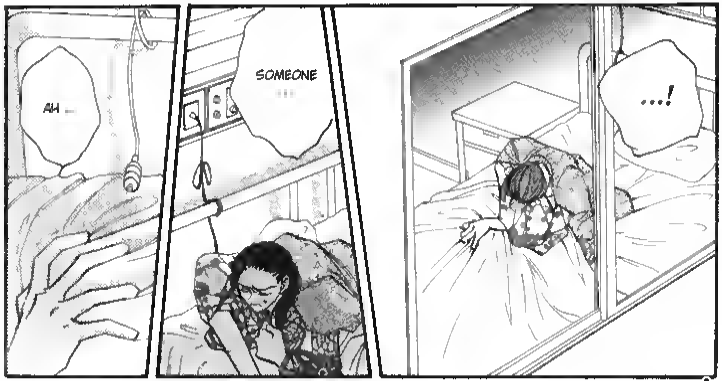
GOOL



BUT IT'S SUCH A WASTE!
I HAVE NO PLANS TO GO, MOTHER
SO, SHOU IS GOING TO STUDY OVERSEAS. .
Slide
THERE YOU GO.
HAVE AN APPLE
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN LEAVE THE ILL YOU BEHIND AND GO TO GERMANY, RIGHT?
IF I HAD REFUSED TO PLAY AT THAT TIME, SENSEI WOULD HAVE BEEN VERY EMBARRASSED, RIGHT?
BUT
THAT WAS THE ONLY REASON I AGREED TO PLAY

WAS YOUR HIDING THE FACT THAT YOU WERE STILL PLAYING THE PIANO BECAUSE OF ME, TOO?
ARE YOU TAKING ME TOO MUCH INTO CONSIDERATION?
I'M VERY WORRIED,
BUT, SHOU,
I'LL COME BACK AGAIN

SHARP PAIN
!
IF SO, I...

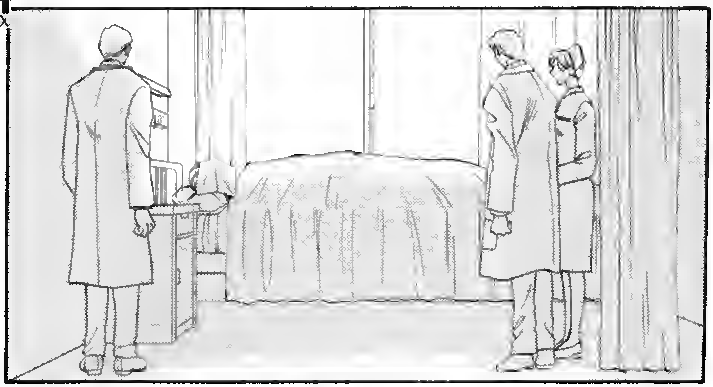

AH...
SOMEONE
...!

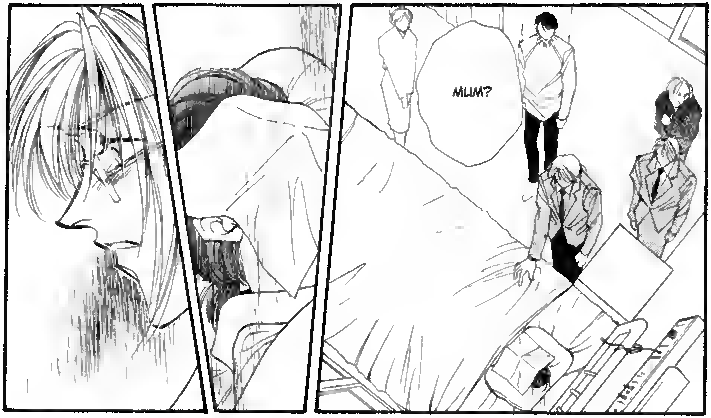
SHOU-KUN
SHOU...
IF THAT'S SO, THEN I...
I KNOW THAT I HAD BEEN TOO DOMINEERING, DOING WHAT I DID
I KNOW THAT IT MIGHT JUST BE MY OWN EGO
LUCKILY THERE S MR SCHNEIDER FROM THE MUSIC ACADEMY OF GERMANY,
IF THE CURRENT SITUATION CARRIES ON, YOU WOULD BE ONLY STUCK IN THE LIMITS I HAVE SET FOR YOU
WHO HAS ADVISED YOU TO GO STUDY THERE
BUT I WOULD REALLY LIKE YOU TO WALK THE PATH OF A LIFE IN PIANO-PLAYING

TAKASHI...
I THINK THAT IT'S A REALLY GOOD CHANCE.
I'VE DISCOVERED IT A LONG TIME AGO.
YOU USED YOUR JUKU SCHOOL FEES TO PAY FOR PIANO LESSONS AND STUDIO RENTING COSTS INSTEAD, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU THOUGHT THAT I DIDN'T KNOW?
TAKASHI...

ARE YOU GOING .?
...TO GERMANY.
.....
THAT'S .
SHOU-SAMA, TAKASHI-SAMA!
A CALL FROM THE HOSPITAL JUST CAME ...!

YOU MIGHT NOT HAVE REALISED IT,
SHOU-KUN
BUT YOU LOVE THE PIANO
YOU LOVE IT VERY MUCH
HOWEVER, WHY ARE YOU HOLDING YOURSELF BACK LIKE THIS?
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER, IF YOU LIVED YOUR LIFE MORE FREELY
WHY?
SLAM OPEN
MOTHER ...!

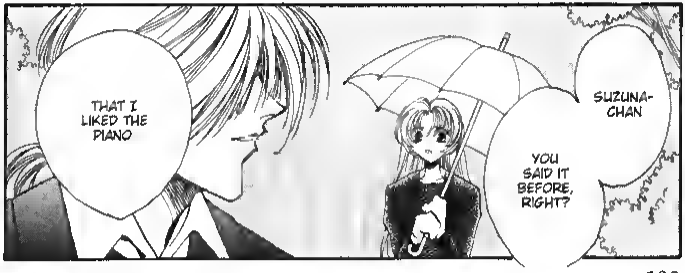



MUM?

WHAT IS IT THAT IS TYING YOU DOWN —?
MUM...

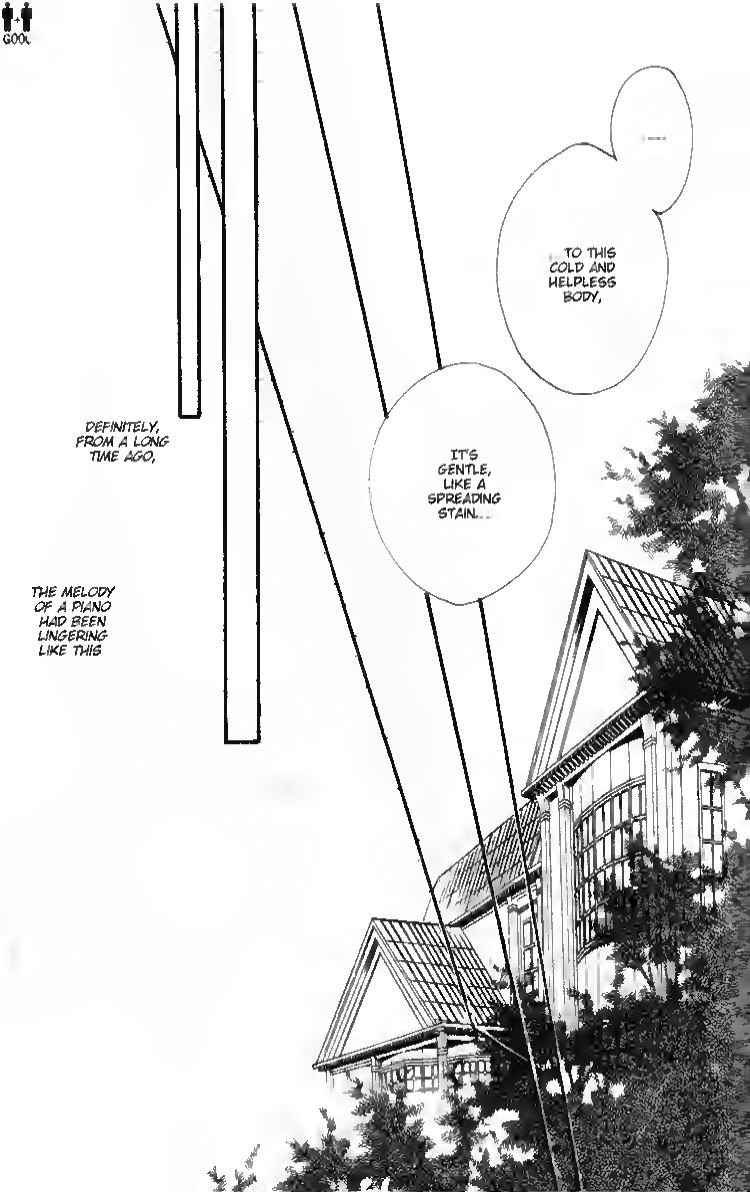
SUZUNA-CHAN...
SHOU-SAN.

rustle
IT'S SHOCKING HOW I AM UNEXPECTEDLY CALM ABOUT THIS...

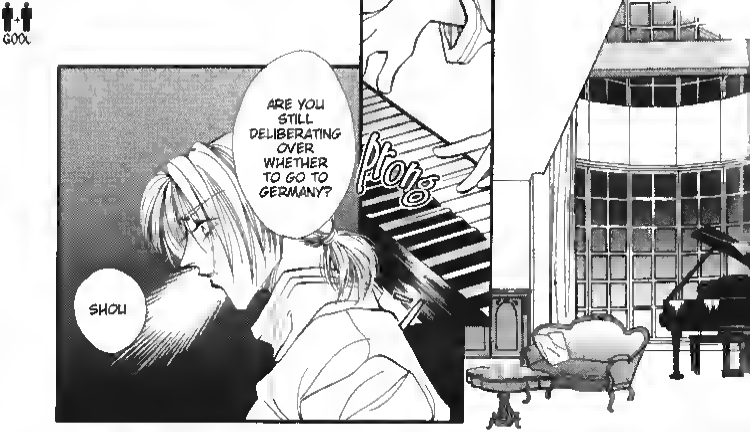

THAT I LIKED THE PIANO
SUZUNA-CHAN
YOU SAID IT BEFORE, RIGHT?

NO LONGER EXISTS !!
BE-CAUSE
THE PERSON
THAT DISLIKES MY PLAYING THE PIANO
FROM NOW ONWARDS, I'LL PLAY FOR YOU TO LISTEN AS MUCH AS YOU LIKE
THERE'S NO NEED TO HIDE ANYWAY
SHOU-SAN !
MOTHER ONLY SAID THAT TO ME
YOU WON'T STOP PLAYING IT NO MATTER WHAT?
YOU NE SHOU WANT TO CONTINUE PLAYING THE PIANO NO MATTER WHAT?
MOTHER HATED MY BEING COMPARED TO TAKASHI.

BUT, BECAUSE I KNEW THAT SHE WANTED ME TO STOP ...
YOU POOR THING
SHOU-SAN
YOU'RE SO PITIFUL
YOU POOR THING
IT FEELS GOOD TO BE CONSOLED
THIS RAINY DAY IS SO MUCH LIKE THE DAY I HEARD THE MELODY OF THE PIANO
I USED TO HATE BEING PITIED IN THE PAST
YEAH. I JUST REALISED SOMETHING RECENTLY


...
...TO THIS COLD AND HELPLESS BODY,
IT'S GENTLE, LIKE A SPREADING STAIN...
DEFINITELY, FROM A LONG TIME AGO,
THE MELODY OF A PIANO HAD BEEN LINGERING LIKE THIS

I WAS ONLY CONCERNED WITH MYSELF WHO WAS DRENCHED,
THE SOUND OF THE HEAVY RAIN DROWNED IT OUT AND PREVENTED IT FROM REACHING ME
BUT I NEVER REALISED IT
AND DID NOT REALISE THE KINDNESS OF OTHERS TOWARDS ME
I SIMPLY DIDN'T HEAR THAT MELODY


ARE YOU STILL DELIBERATING OVER WHETHER TO GO TO GERMANY?
SHOU
Pro's

EVEN THOUGH I, TOO CAN PLAY IT NOW
EH...
IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE I'VE HEARD YOU PLAY IT, HOW NOSTALGIC.
CHOPIN'S "NOCTURNE"
TAKASHI...

YOU'RE THE ONE, WHO, FROM A LONG TIME AGO
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING...?
NOPE
YOU'RE THE ONE THAT PLAYED IT
I COULDN'T PLAY IT YET. AT THAT TIME —
YOU STARTED TO LEARN TO PLAY THE PIANO AFTER FATHER'S RE-MARRIAGE
SHOU IS AMAZING!
YOU'VE ALREADY PRO-GRESSED SO MUCH?
THE PIANO TEACHER PRAISED YOU TOO! HE SAID YOU'RE CLEVER!
YOU WERE THE TYPE OF CHILD THAT WAS CALLED CLEVER

YOU ABSORBED KNOWLEDGE FAST, AND COULD DO EVERYTHING WELL
IT WAS THE SAME FOR PIANO.
I'M LEARNING THIS SONG NOW
BUT,
SOMEHOW, I ALWAYS RUN INTO PROBLEMS HERE
CAN I TRY?
EH?
IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE,
SHOU...

SHOU...
!!!
EASILY...
SEE?
JUST PLAY IT LIKE THIS

WHY CAN'T YOU DO THIS?
UNBELIEVE-ABLY, WHEN YOU SAID THAT, YOU DIDN'T MEAN ANY HARM
IT'S EASY
RIGHT?
THAT WAS EVEN MORE CRUEL...
BUT YOU STOPPED PLAYING THE PIANO SOON AFTER THAT

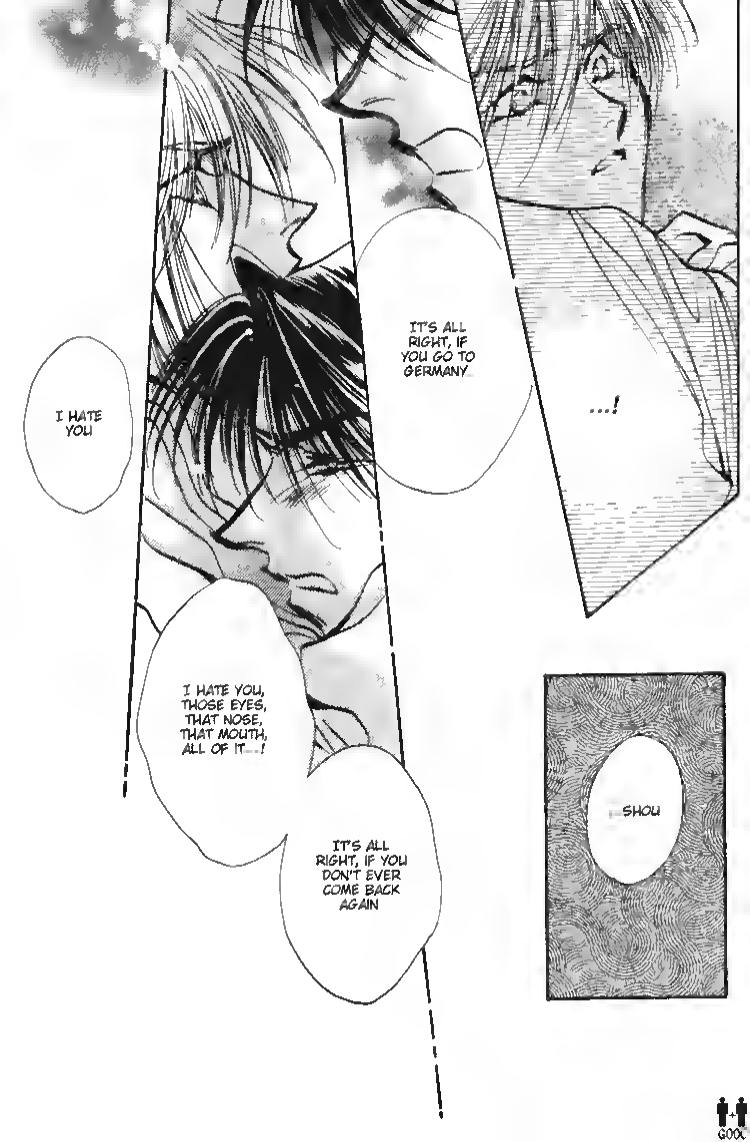
FROM THAT TIME ON, YOU STARTED CHANGING, LITTLE BY LITTLE
I WAS AWARE THAT YOU WERE TRYING TO NOT STAND OUT AND ATTRACT ATTENTION,
THAT YOU WERE TRYING TO NOT SURPASS ME
IN STUDIES AND IN SPORTS
DID YOU THINK THAT I WAS A FOOL?

GOOD
I——!
THAT'S RIGHT.
AH...
YOU...
DID YOU KNOW HOW I FELT?
BECAUSE TAKASHI IS THE HEIR TO THE AMORI FAMILY...
YOU CAN'T DO BETTER THAN TAKASHI
YOU JUST HAVE TO STAY ONE STEP BELOW HIM.
SHOU
THE ONE THAT PLAYED THE PIANO AT THAT TIME WAS ME
BUT, MOTHER

WHY DO YOU THINK TOSHIKO-SAN TOLD YOU THAT?
YOU'RE AN IDIOT
JUST STAY BENEATH HIM.
THAT'S BECAUSE
YOU ARE THE FLESH AND BLOOD OF FATHER, TOO
NO WAY...!
MY MOTHER WAS STILL ALIVE, FATHER AND TOSHIKO-SAN.
WHEN...
IT'S TRUE...
EVEN THOUGH GRANDMOTHER AND THEY ALL WOULDN'T ACCEPT IT,

I'VE NEVER HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT IT
THAT'S
IT'S THE REASON WHY I DIDN'T CALL HER MOTHER
AND FOR ME,
IT'S BECAUSE SHE FELT GUILTY.
THAT'S WHY SHE KEPT GIVING IN TO ME
I'VE NEVER HEARD..!
—ALL THAT.
HOW COULD YOU, MOTHER?
I DIDN'T HEAR

THEN, FOR WHAT DID I. . ALL I DID TILL NOW...
BUT THAT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE
I DID IT ALL FOR HER, AND YET—
MOTHER WAS IMPORTANT TO ME
I AM...


IT'S ALL RIGHT, IF YOU GO TO GERMANY
...!
I HATE YOU
I HATE YOU, THOSE EYES, THAT NOSE, THAT MOUTH, ALL OF IT...!
IT'S ALL RIGHT, IF YOU DON'T EVER COME BACK AGAIN
...SHOU

LEAVE THIS HOUSE, YOU CAN GO ANYWHERE.
SO, GO
IT'S PAINFUL FOR ME—!
SO MUCH THAT WHENEVER I SEE YOU...

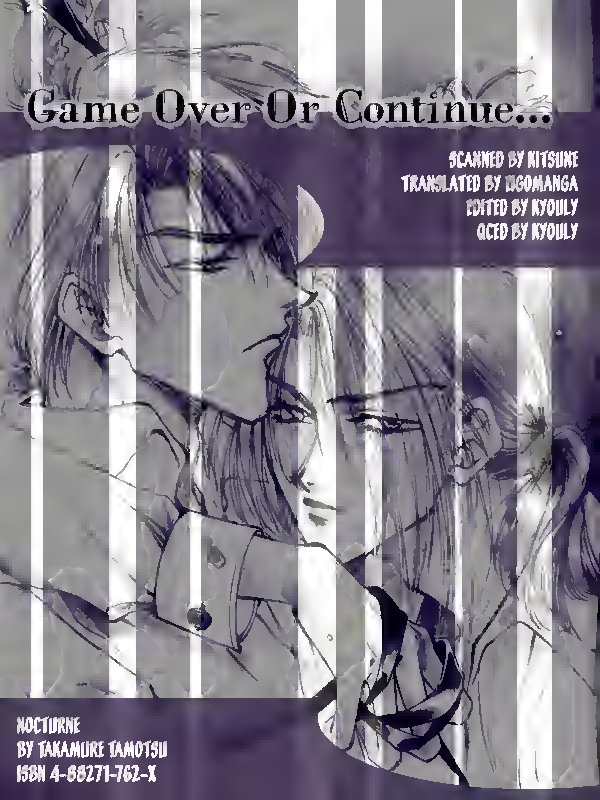
TAKA-SHI...
TO YOU
I AM ALREADY...
THERE'S NOTHING HOLDING YOU BACK ANYMORE...
squeeze
27

AS IF WHAT?
BECAUSE, IT'S AS IF
YEAH
I'M FINE BY MYSELF
WHAT, THERE'S NO ONE SENDING YOU OFF?
AS IF, SOME-HOW.
I FEEL
AS IF I CAN HEAR THE SOUND OF TAKASHI PLAYING THE PIANO.

夜想曲～ノクターン～／END

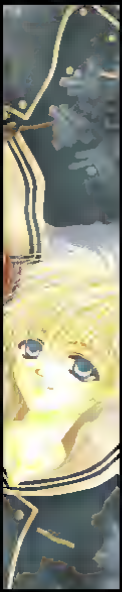
[MAGAZINE BE×BOY]'96年12月号・'97年1月号・2月号掲載

Thank you for your support and we hope that we can share yaoi manga with you for many more years.
But please support the mangaka by purchasing a copy of your favourites when they're released in your country!
We also want to thank the staff members, volunteers/freelancers and donators for their help.
Have fun reading this new release!
GameOverOrContinue...
5 YEARS AND STILL GOING!



NOCTURNE
BY TAKAMURE TAMOTSU
ISBN 4-88271-762-X

HAPPY BIRTHDAY LADYNAGISA!!!
THX FOR YOUR HARD WORK AS A SCANNER AND AN EDITOR UP UNTIL NOW! PLEASE KEEP IT UP!
WE WISH YOU LOTS OF BISHOUNEN SO THAT YOUR WORK WON'T BE SO BORING!



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Etude
エチュード

POST
How are you?

It's been a few months. It's now totally spring here.
In Germany how does spring announce its arrival?
BUT IF THIS CARRIES ON HIS BREAKFAST COFFEE IS GOING TO GET COLD.
SHOULD PIANO PLAYING IS WONDERFUL TODAY TOO.
SEN'S DOWN.
YES, MUM
I'LL GO AND CALL HIM.
smile

エチュード

IT'S A LETTER FOR SHOU FROM JAPAN
RICHARD COULD YOU PASS THIS TO HIM ON THE WAY PLEASE?
A...
OH..
A...MORI...?
JAPAN
VIA AIR MAIL
THE SAME NAME AS SHOU
Are you very lonely being in a foreign country by yourself?
I hope that this letter will at least give you some comfort
KNOCK KNOCK
SHOU...

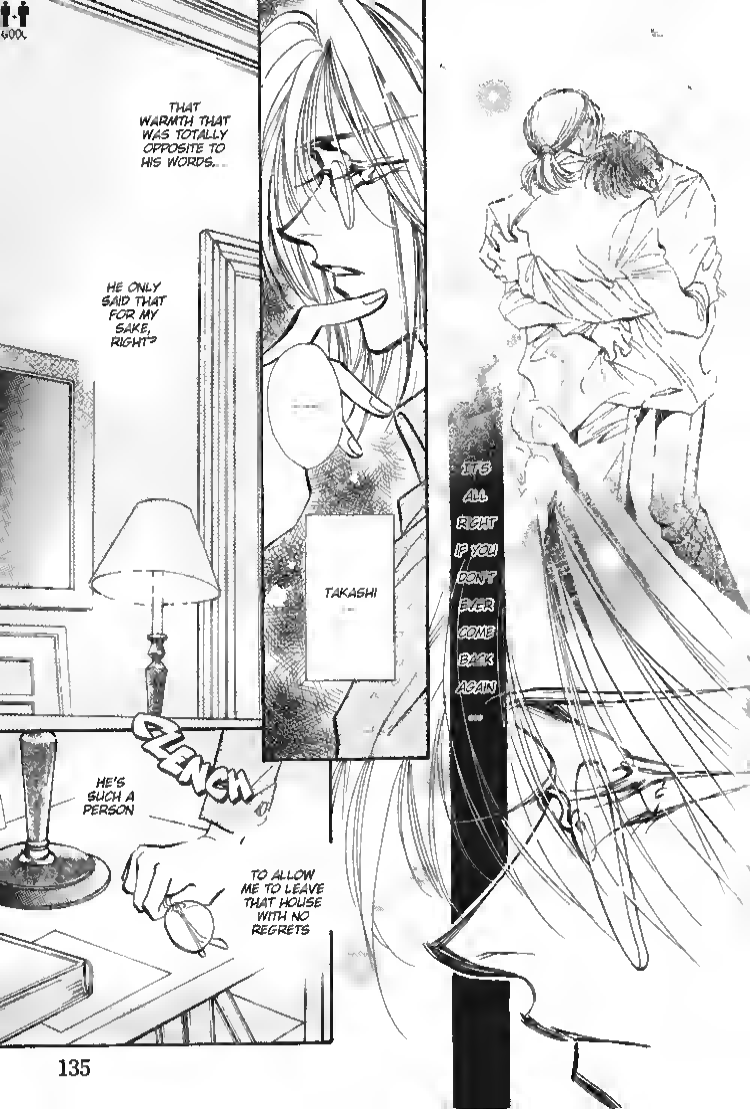
hereby attached is
Japan's spring.
KNOCK
KNOCK

SORRY FOR DISTURBING YOU
MUM WOULD LIKE YOU TO HAVE THE DELICIOUS BREAKFAST WHILE IT'S STILL WARM.
YOU'RE TRULY AMAZING, SHOU.
IF YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO GO TO THE LANGUAGE SCHOOL, YOU WOULD BE PLAYING THE ENTIRE DAY, RIGHT?
AH...
SORRY, RICHARD I WAS SO CARRIED AWAY...
MUM KEEPS TELLING ME TO GET A GIRL-FRIEND THAT I CAN BE MORE ENGROSSED IN THAN THIS
BUT SHOU'S CASE IS EVEN MORE EXTREME...

?
IN JAPAN
I HADN'T BEEN ABLE TO PLAY TO MY HEART'S CONTENT
JUST?
NAH, THAT'S NOT HOW IT IS
IT'S JUST THAT
AH
ERM
THIS AND THAT ONE IS
IT'S FROM SUZUNA-CHAN AND MY CLASS-MATES, I HAVEN'T SEEN THEM FOR SO LONG ♡
THIS
AH!
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I ALMOST FORGOT
MUTTER

TAKASHI AMORI
JAPAN
VIA AIR MAIL
TAKASHI...!
A LETTER FROM YOUR SWEET-HEART?
EH?!
BECAUSE YOU HAVE THAT SORT OF EXPRESSION
smile
HOW CAN THAT BE!
NO WAY...

IT'S ALL RIGHT IF YOU GO TO GER-MANY.
BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE A SWEETHEART
BOTH IN THE PAST, AND NOW...


THAT WARMTH THAT WAS TOTALLY OPPOSITE TO HIS WORDS...
HE ONLY SAID THAT FOR MY SAKE, RIGHT?
TAKASHI
IT'S ALL RIGHT IF YOU DON'T EVER COME BACK AGAIN ...
CLANG
HE'S SUCH A PERSON
TO ALLOW ME TO LEAVE THAT HOUSE WITH NO REGRETS

RUN
RUN
I HOPE THAT WE WILL RETURN TO BEING JUST BROTHERS
MUM, LOOK, LOOK!
A REPLY LETTER FROM SHOU-SAN!
WHEN I GO BACK TO JAPAN
TO ME, HE IS NOT MY BELOVED
...BECAUSE HE IS MY YOUNGER BROTHER...
BUT, IT'S AIR MAIL!
It's the first time I've received one.
YEAH YEAH
This child is really
AHH, JUST CALM DOWN A LITTLE, SUZUNA
meow

IT'S NORMAL TO BE HAPPY TO RECEIVE A REPLY RIGHT?
He-he
I WAITED A FEW MONTHS TO SEND HIM A LETTER.
I THOUGHT THAT HE'S JUST MOVED OVERSEAS AND HAS NOT SETTLED DOWN YET, SO
TEAR
AND ALSO THE REPLY CAME SO FAST, SHOU-SAN IS AN UNEXPECTEDLY GOOD CORRESPONDENT ♡
Excited ♡
I'll skip the greetings
KOK
Suzuna-chan, thank you for your letter

It's been a few months since I've left Japan and I've finally started to get used to life here.
The members of the Schneider family who allowed me to stay here are all very kind.
Especially their son Richard, a college student, who is majoring in music, gives me lots of advice.
The most difficult thing is the morning German language lessons at the language school.
I have piano lessons at home in the afternoon.
German college classes start in October, so I'm preparing for exams right now
There's lots of greenery here, and the streets are beautiful, too, so I understand why there's so many people who like strolling here.

Suzuna-chan... I wished I can show you how spring looks like here, too.
HAA~
HOW NICE
OH GOSH, I WISH I CAN GO STUDY OVERSEAS, TOO, NOW
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
HMM...
SHOULD I REPLY TO HIS LETTER RIGHT NOW?
SINCE IT HAPPENS TO BE SPRING BREAK RIGHT NOW, AND I HAVE LOTS OF TIME ♫
AAH,
IF SO,
HOW ABOUT PASSING IT TO TAKASHI AFTER YOU ARE DONE?
EH?!
AH,
YOU HAVEN'T HEARD YET?

ROAR
TAKASHI-SAN
IS GOING TO SEE SHOU-SAN
CHIKI
HI
EH?
AH
SHOU?
SORRY
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU'RE STARING OFF INTO SPACE

PLEASE CONTINUE PLAYING
AH...
Y-YES
THAT WAS A BEAUTIFUL SONG ETUDE THE THIRD
IS IT A SONG YOU LIKE?
IT'S CALLED "THE SONG OF PARTING" TOO

BUT SOMEHOW, IT'S GIVING ME AN IMAGE OF SPRING INSTEAD
SPRING?
YUP
MAYBE BECAUSE IT'S THE SONG FOR GRADUATION CEREMONIES .
THAT'S RIGHT, JAPAN HAS BOTH THE SCHOOL-ENTERING CEREMONIES AND GRADUATION CEREMONIES IN SPRING, RIGHT
T/N sakura = spring blossoms
WHAT'S THE SPRING LIKE IN JAPAN?
HMM, THAT'S
WELL,
PROBABLY IT'S THE SAKURA*
AH, I'VE HEARD OF IT
THE LIGHT PURPLE
OR LIGHT PEACH-COLOURED FLOWERS THAT RESEMBLE APPLE FLOWERS, THAT BLOOM BEAUTIFULLY - JAPAN'S NATIONAL FLOWER.
SAKURA?
YUP,
THAT'S RIGHT

THERE'S THE RED WEEPING SOMEI YOSHINO, AND THE FUJIKASUMI THAT LINES THE RIVER BANKS —
SAKURA, SAKURA,
IN SPRING, ALL THOSE SAKURA BLOSSOMS START BLOOMING
THAT IS EXTREMELY BEAUTIFUL
THE SIGHT OF THOSE LIGHT PINK FLOWER PETALS DANCING IN THE AIR,
SO MANY MEMORIES COME WITH THAT FLOWER
BUT THE MOST MYSTERIOUS THING IS,
RIGHT NOW, IT'S PROBABLY THE SEASON FOR THEM TO BE IN FULL BLOOM IN JAPAN.
EVEN THOUGH I'VE LEFT EVERYONE IN JAPAN AND CAME HERE,

I DO HAVE A DEEPER IMPRESSION OF THE FLOWER PETALS DANCING IN THE AIR THAN OF THEM ACTUALLY BLOOMING...
THAT'S THE SORT OF FLOWER THAT IT IS
THE ANTICIPATION OF A MEETING, AND THE LONELINESS OF PARTING...
EVERY-ONE
LEAVING EVERYONE AND COMING HERE
FRIENDS HOME... AND MY MOTHER'S GRAVE
THE SAKURA OF SPRING INCLUDES THAT SMELL, TOO...
EVEN THOUGH IT'S VERY BEAUTIFUL, IT'S ALSO SOMEHOW VERY MELANCHOLIC THIS DOUBLE-SIDED NATURE OF IT MAKES IT EVEN MORE ATTRACTIVE TO PEOPLE.
TAKASHI, TOO—
MEMORIES OF JAPAN TOO...
EH?
Me?
SOME-HOW,
YOU SEEM SIMILAR TO IT, TOO SHOU.

"The song of parting" is a common name in Japan it seems to be popular in movies and music...

IT WAS DELICATE BUT IT WASN'T WEAK
NOPE,
YOU'RE REALLY ALIKE
Such lines should be used when picking up girls!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, RICHARD?
NO WAY!
That's embarrassing...
Jiggle
THE FIRST TIME I HEARD YOU PLAYING THE PIANO
I THOUGHT THAT IT WAS DELICATE AND SUBTLE
THERE WAS PASSION HIDDEN IN IT, BUT IT WAS NOT CRUDE OR ANYTHING —
SOME-HOW

THE MUSIC THAT HAS AN OPPOSING BEAUTY——
AT THAT MOMENT, NOT ONLY THE PIANO'S MUSIC,
ACTUALLY MORE THAN THE MUSIC,
I WAS ATTRACTED BY SHOU.
SHOU!
RICHARD
SLAM
BY SHOU, I——
I
BUT
NO
THAT'S NOT IT.

Smile
COME HAVE YOUR DINNER, BOTH OF YOU
GRAB
I LOVE YOUR PIANO PLAYING, SO I WANT YOU TO WORK HARD
IT WILL BE GREAT IF WE CAN GO TO CAMPUS TOGETHER IN AUTUMN!
SO,
RICHARD

STEP
STEP
I forgot to pass them to him after washing them
SORRY, CAN YOU PLEASE TAKE THESE SHEETS UP TO SHOU?
RICHARD
SHOU,
DON'T NAP AT SUCH A PLACE
You'll catch a cold
NN...
CREAK
SHOU...
knock knock
HUFF
And on top of the piano too!
AH
HE'S ASLEEP?

THE FIRST TIME I MET YOU, I WAS MOVED BY YOUR PIANO PLAYING.
SHOU...
BUT MORE THAN THAT, MY HEART WAS CHARMED BY YOU YOURSELF.
BEAUTIFUL MUSIC, AND BEAUTIFUL SHOU...

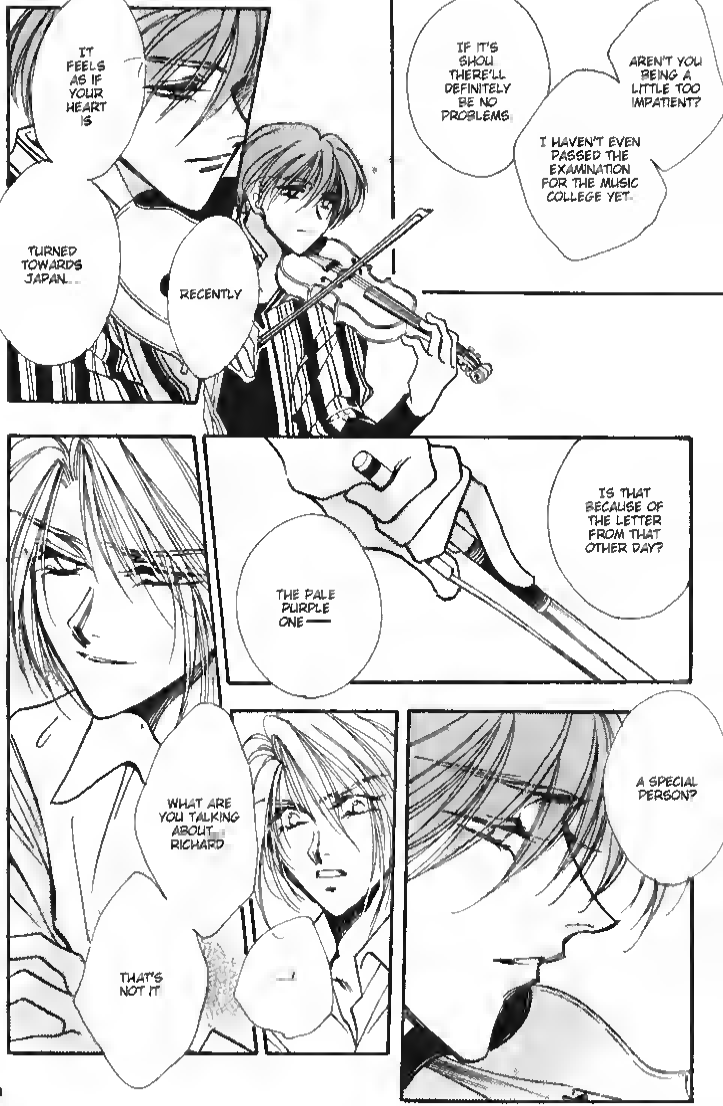
I WANT TO MAKE YOU MINE
smile
IF YOU KNOW WHAT I'M THINKING OF, YOU'LL DEFINITELY BE SHOCKED RIGHT?
HMM?

UN...
A·M·O·R·I
T...
WHY?
ONLY THIS LETTER IS UNOPENED?
THE LETTER FROM THAT TIME...
KASHI

AMORI
TAKASHI
TAKASHI.
THE PALE PURPLE ENVELOPE THAT CAME VIA AIRMAIL
MAKES ONE THINK OF CHERRY BLOSSOMS.
...!

*literally translated "a gipsy's manners"
"Zigeunerweisen Op. 20" composed by Pablo de Sarasate

smile
I'M GLAD
THUD
AH—
I GIVE UP
I WISH THAT SHOU WOULD STAY HERE FOREVER.
RICHARD...
HE SEEMED A BIT STRANGE YESTERDAY, BUT NOW HE'S BACK TO HIS NORMAL SELF AGAIN
HEY, SHOU.


IT FEELS AS IF YOUR HEART IS
TURNED TOWARDS JAPAN...
RECENTLY
IF IT'S SHOU THERE'LL DEFINITELY BE NO PROBLEMS.
I HAVEN'T EVEN PASSED THE EXAMINATION FOR THE MUSIC COLLEGE YET.
AREN'T YOU BEING A LITTLE TOO IMPATIENT?
IS THAT BECAUSE OF THE LETTER FROM THAT OTHER DAY?
THE PALE PURPLE ONE——
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, RICHARD
THAT'S NOT IT
A SPECIAL PERSON?

PERKS UP
HA..
WHAT'S..
BROTHER..?
THAT'S RIGHT
THE MATTER?
JUST MY
YOUNGER BROTHER, SO..
BROTHER..
THAT'S—

THAT'S RIGHT
IF WE ARE REALLY RELATED BY BLOOD, THEN WE CAN'T GO BACK TO THE RELATIONSHIP THAT WE HAVE HAD IN THE PAST
IF WE ARE SEPARATED WE'D DEFINITELY BE ABLE TO FORGET
AND MORE-OVER, I..
THERE WASN'T LOVE OR ANYTHING IN IT, RIGHT?
IN THE FIRST PLACE, THAT RELATIONSHIP STARTED BECAUSE WE WERE SPITING EACH OTHER, WASN'T IT?

I'LL BE ABLE TO FORGET
SHOU...
I HAVEN'T HEARD HIM SAY, NOT EVEN ONCE THAT HE LIKED ME...!
BUT,
SHOU
SHOU!
EVEN IF I HAVEN'T EVEN OPENED IT
DON'T MAKE SUCH A FACE, PLEASE
BUT WHY DID SHE HAVE TO SEND ME A LETTER, NOW THAT THINGS HAVE COME TO THIS
MY HEART IS
PLEASE
I WAS JUST CONCERNED !
I DIDN'T MEAN TO CAUSE YOU DISTRESS

ALREADY SHAKEN
For you
the spring of Japan
RICHA.

EVEN THOUGH I HADN'T MEANT TO CONFESS TO YOU LIKE THIS...
I COULDN'T HOLD BACK ANYMORE...
DID SOMETHING PAINFUL HAPPEN TO YOU IN JAPAN?
NO.
THAT DOESN'T MATTER.
The itinerary is as follows; but is it all right if I go visit you at your homestay family?
actually I am thinking of using the spring break to go over there.
To start off,
I'm sending it to you.
SHOCKED?
Aap

IF THAT'S THE CASE THEN JUST DON'T GO BACK ANYMORE
If no, please give me a reply
Otherwise
see you sometime later
SHOU
TOWARDS YOU, I...
Brother —
SHOCK

...!
TAKASHI...!

エピローグ

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SO I STAYED THERE FOR A NIGHT BEFORE COMING TO AUGSBURG
YES.
IT WAS LATE BY THE TIME I GOT TO MUNICH.
SO,
YOU REACHED GERMANY YESTERDAY?
POU
EVEN SO SHOU'S BROTHER COMING HERE
IS SUCH A SURPRISE!
IT'S SUDDEN, SO WE'RE NOT REALLY PREPARED, BUT
IT HAS BEEN A FEW MONTHS SINCE TAKASHI AND I LAST PARTED WAYS.
I WONDER IF THIS FOOD IS TO YOUR TASTE?

I DID SEND A LETTER.
EH?
EVEN THOUGH I HAD THOUGHT THAT THE NEXT TIME I WOULD SEE HIM WOULD BE IN A FEW YEARS, AFTER I'VE RETURNED TO JAPAN...
A LETTER —
CLACK
IN IT, I DID SAY THAT I WAS COMING TODAY TO AUGSBURG.
IT WAS IN A LIGHT PURPLE ENVELOPE—
SLAP
COUGH
AH
WELL,
I DIDN'T RE
WAH!
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL US?
GRR
THERE WAS INDEED SUCH A LETTER, SHOU!
AH, COME TO THINK OF IT,

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EH?
WELL, SINCE YOUR BROTHER HAS COME ALL THE WAY FROM JAPAN TODAY TO SEE YOU, LET HIM STAY HERE TODAY!
NO, I CAN STAY AT THE HOTEL...
THAT'S A GOOD IDEA, HANNA.
THAT I DIDN'T READ HIS LETTER...
Huh?
THAT'S REALLY NOT NECESSARY!
JEEZ THIS KID IS...!
OH NO
AH
NO
IT SEEMS LIKE IT'S SLIPPED MY MIND
SORRY, SORRY
DID TAKASHI NOTICE IT?
TAKASHI?
NORMALLY YOU'RE VERY RELIABLE, BUT OCCASIONALLY YOU CAN BE SO SCATTER-BRAINED!
WAS HE LIKE THAT IN JAPAN, TOO,
EH?
WAIT, AUNTIE!!
HOW ABOUT THE TWO OF YOU STAY IN THE SAME ROOM?
THAT'S GOOD, I'M SURE YOU BROTHERS HAVE LOTS TO TALK ABOUT!
SLAM
CLACK
HUH ...?!
I'LL GO PREPARE THE GUEST ROOM. ♡

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I left the rest at Munich
Your luggage is only this?
SOME-HOW
THIS FEELS
GOOD
I FEEL CLOSER TO TAKASHI THEN I HAVE EVER BEEN WHEN I WAS IN JAPAN
BEING TOGETHER LIKE THIS, IT'S AS IF
SINCE I'VE SEEN YOUR SMILING FACE——

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YOU HATE ME, DON'T YOU?
EVEN THOUGH YOU NEVER REFUSED ME BACK IN JAPAN...
IS THIS BECAUSE OF HIM?
!
I HAD THOUGHT THAT YOU LIKE THE SUZUNA-TYPE BUT
IT SEEMS THAT YOU'RE FINE WITH MEN
LIKE RICHARD, TOO.
WA...
WAIT A MINUTE!
THERE'S NO SUCH THING!
WHY ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ME AND HIM
EARLIER...

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IT LOOKED LIKE
THE TWO OF YOU WERE KISSING
THAT TIME, ...!
AH...
THAT'S
WITH RICHARD
LOOK
FOREIGNERS, THEY KISS AS A GREETING
SO IT WAS JUST A JOKE

THERE'S
RICHARD HAD BEEN ACTING NORMALLY AT DINNER TIME, TOO
NO PARTICULAR MEANING TO IT
I WANT TO KNOW, TOO, WHAT HE WAS THINKING...
.....
I DON'T HAVE THAT SORT OF RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM...
SHOU...
THEN...
CRACK

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SHOU ?
JUST NOW,
YOU SAID
THAT I NEVER REFUSED YOU.
INDEED, I NEVER REFUSED YOU
AS LONG AS YOU WANTED IT, NO MATTER WHAT...
...HOWEVER,
I'D LET YOU DO ANYTHING YOU LIKED

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ALL THIS WHILE,
I HATED IT...!
I
I HATED IT—!
ALL THIS TIME,
I HATED IT—.

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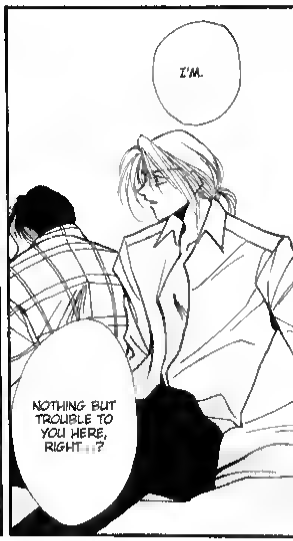
HAD NEVER OCCURRED, NOT EVEN ONCE ...!
WHAT AM I HOPING FOR
EVEN THOUGH IT'S SOMETHING THAT I SHOULD HAVE UNDERSTOOD ALREADY,
SINCE WHEN?
BUT YET I FOLLOWED YOU ALL THE WAY HERE.
I'M JUST CAUSING YOU PROBLEMS AIN'T I...?
WHEN DID HE EVER REALISE MY FEELINGS?
I AM A TOTAL IDIOT...!
THAT'S RIGHT YOU DIDN'T EVEN OPEN THE ENVELOPE OF THE LETTER THAT I'VE SENT YOU...
AND YET—!
SUCH A THING...

Game Over Or Continue... geec cjb!nuc! !game!over@irc!irchighway!net

TOMOR-
ROW
I'LL BE GOING BACK TO JAPAN
...!

I
WILL GO BACK AND SLEEP IN MY OWN ROOM.
TAKASHI
THAT SEEMS TO BE BETTER


I'M.
NOTHING BUT TROUBLE TO YOU HERE, RIGHT...?

YOU KNEW LONG AGO THAT WE ARE REALLY RELATED BY BLOOD, DIDN'T YOU?
THEN, WHY DID YOU
STILL SLEEP WITH ME?
WHY...
DID YOU STILL WANT TO EMBRACE ME...?
HEY,
TAKASHI

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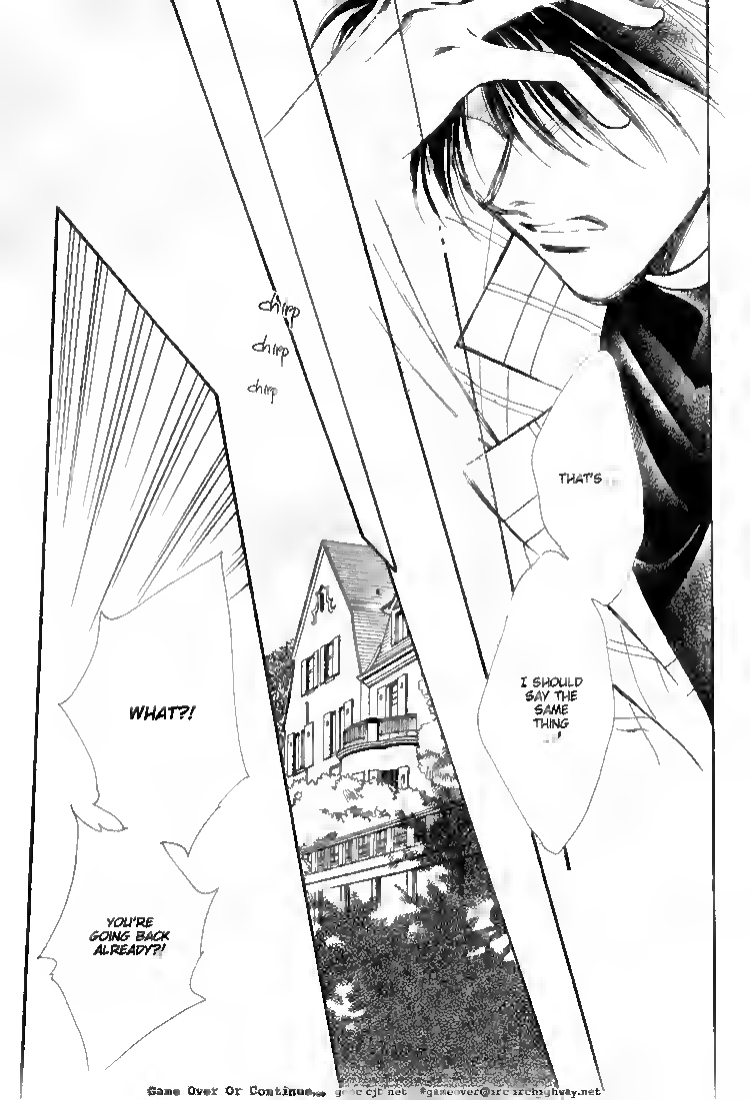

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NO,
I JUST WANTED TO COME TO THIS CITY, SO I DON'T REALLY HAVE ANY OTHER PLANS
WHAT ABOUT YOUR TOUR ITINERARY? WHAT WILL BECOME OF IT?
I ONLY BOOKED THE HOTEL ROOM, AND IT'S FREE AND EASY AFTER THAT
YES
I HAVE SEEN THAT MY BROTHER IS WELL—
IT'S ONLY BEEN THE THIRD DAY THAT YOU ARE HERE, RIGHT?!
BUT YOU HAVEN'T GONE ANY-WHERE OR SEEN ANYTHING YET!
AH WELL!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, AFTER HAVING COME ALL THE WAY HERE!!
RICHARD, RICHARD!
I'm gonna need your car!
What a waste!
NO—
ERM—

WHEN WAS IT THAT—
HE ALWAYS PLAYS FIRST IN THE MORNING
THAT'S SHOU'S PIANO PLAYING
REALLY,
I—
BUT I COULD NEVER BEAT THE LITTLE SHOU IN MY MEMORY—
SO
YOU STOPPED PLAYING THE PIANO IN FRONT OF ME?
THAT'S WHY, UNTIL I HEARD YOU PLAYING THE PIANO IN SCHOOL I DIDN'T KNOW HOW YOU PLAYED—

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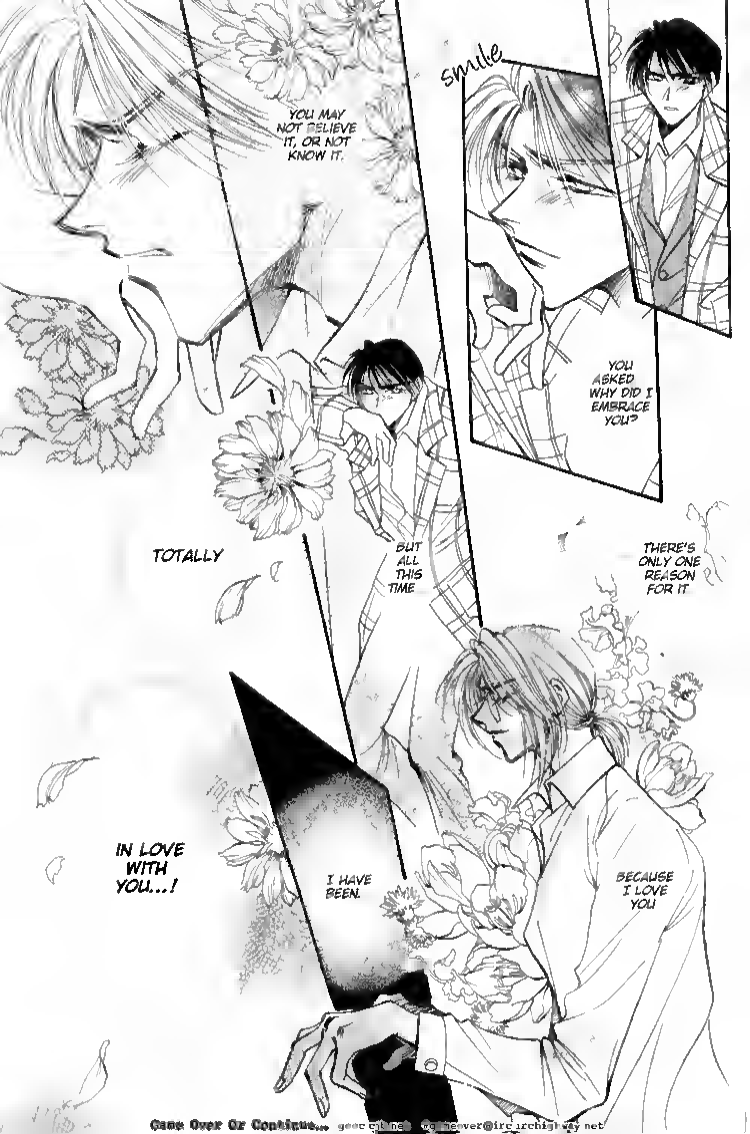
YOU MAY NOT BELIEVE IT, OR NOT KNOW IT.
smile
YOU ASKED WHY DID I EMBRACE YOU?
TOTALLY
BUT ALL THIS TIME
THERE'S ONLY ONE REASON FOR IT
IN LOVE WITH YOU...!
I HAVE BEEN.
BECAUSE I LOVE YOU

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...!
ISN'T THAT BECAUSE YOU'RE TOO HARD TO UNDERSTAND?
YOU'RE ALWAYS SO PARANOID, AND WAS SENSITIVE TOWARDS SO MANY THINGS, AND YET, FOR THE MOST IMPORTANT POINT——
(GOOD MORNING)
Guten Morgen
...YOU THICK-HEADED GUY
SHUTS
RICHARD
Smile
DID YOU SLEEP WELL,
THE SAYING THAT THE JAPANESE HAVE NO EXPRESSION IS REALLY TRUE
TAKASHI?
THAT'S WHAT I THINK WHEN I SEE YOU

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SO...
IT'S REALLY HIS BROTHER
WHAT'S WITH THIS GUY?
THE SENDER OF THAT LETTER
FOR THE LAST FOUR MONTHS, I'VE THOUGHT IT STRANGE
WHAT IS HE TRYING TO SAY?
WHY SHOU ALMOST DIDN'T MENTION HIS FAMILY AT ALL
BUT IT SEEMS THAT I'VE UNDERSTOOD AFTER LOOKING AT YOU
THOSE BLUE-GRAY PUPILS THAT SEEM TO LOOK RIGHT THROUGH ME
THERE MUST HAVE BEEN MANY THINGS THAT HAPPENED, THAT SHOU DOES NOT WANT TO RECALL, RIGHT?
WHAT...!
!
ESPECIAL-LY WHEN IT COMES TO YOU
I KNOW
HE DIDN'T EVEN WANT TO OPEN YOUR LETTER...
RIGHT?

I KNOW
BECAUSE I'VE BEEN ALWAYS LOOKING AT SHOU...
NO MATTER IF HE'S ANGRY,
OR SAD,
EVEN IF HE DIDN'T SAY IT.
THE SHOU NOW
IS VERY PERPLEXED...
IT'S PRO-BABLY
YOUR FAULT, RIGHT?
HE DIDN'T WANT TO SEE YOU, RIGHT?
!
AT SUCH AN IMPORTANT TIME——
HE DOESN'T HAVE AN ABITUR* SO HE WOULD HAVE TO STUDY FOR THE DSH* AND FNDS, ON TOP OF THE PIANO BASICS.
ALTHOUGH HE'S BEEN RECOMMENDED TO COME HERE, HE'S STILL NOT A MUSIC COLLEGE STUDENT YET.

Abitur the diploma for entering German universities
DSH language exams

Game Over Or Continue... geocjb.net #gameover@irc.irchighway.net

Game Over Or Continue qqdc.cjb.net *gameover@freemail.hwdy.net

OHAGAN, GOOD MORNING.
AH, SHOU
MUM, THAT'S DANGEROUS.
BUT, THIS MIRROR IS A LITTLE CROOKED
RICHARD
TOWARDS SHOU—
THAT'S DANGER-OUS.
I'LL DO IT INSTEAD.
GRASP
RATTLE
RATTLE
IT'S ALL RIGHT
I WAS JUST BOTHERED BECAUSE THIS SCREW'S KINDA BENT.
EH?
LOOK OUT!
SHOU!!
Shock

Editor's note: Me, I wasn't that fancy not to edit out those SFX but I thought the original ones just look nicer ^_^

OUCH
RICHARD ARE YOU ALL RIGHT
RICHARD ?!

Free Talk part. I

「愛かプライドか…どちらを選ぶかそれが問題だ」と、いう話を描いてみたくて描き始めたのがこのノクターンです。
私好みの受けは不幸が似合う男…しかし攻めで好きなのも不幸が似合う男…！
と、いうわけで今回もよりどちらが可哀相な奴かを競い合う話になりました。(しかし最近さらに自分の好みを深く追及してみたら破滅的な人が好きであることが判明。だからホモが好きなんだよ…フッ)

この手の話は読み手の主観により大きく意見が異なる所なのですが作者の私としては「笙…ひどい奴だよ君は…！」と思っちょります。
このマンガ読んだだけじゃ何考えてるんだかよく分からんと言われる隆史なのですが、彼は笙の事がすっご〜く！好きで好きで、その才能にほとんど憧れさえ抱いててそれと同時に憎んでもいるのですね。なぜなら憧れと妬みは表裏一体。既に才能の時点で負けてるって言うのにどうしようもなくベタ惚れなんて…それだけでもプライドが許さないのに、笙の方は何もかもに手を抜いてそんな事はどうだっていいという態度…！　ああ、もうボロボロですねぇ。自分がプライドかけてる事をないがしろにされその上その人に本気だされたらかなわないと分かってるなんて…なんと辛い事でしょう。わかっちゃいても口にだして怒るのはさらに隆史のプライドをズタズタにする事でしょう。その上彼は口下手です。寡黙な人間です。そんな彼に何ができましょう…。
と、いうわけで彼が笙を抱くのは無言の抗議なわけです。しかしやはり笙が好きな彼はそれが愛情表現でもあるわけです。悲しいですねぇ…。
と、いうわけで笙は傲慢なお方なのです。結果的に…。
マザコンだし…あの男…。

一見笙の方が複雑そうなキャラクターに見えるかとは思うんですが隆史はさらにその上をいく複雑に屈折した性格のキャラクターです。
しかしやはり私はそんな哀れなお方を描くのが好・き♡
(しかし、わざわざ文章でこれだけ説明せねばならぬとは…やはり未熟？)

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IT MAKES ME THINK OF THE TIME WHEN MOTHER DIED.
SHOU...
IT'S ALL MY FAULT!
AH!
I...
IF I HADN'T DONE SUCH A THING, THAT CHILD WOULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN INJURED...!
OBASAN,
OBASAN, IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT
YOU WERE JUST TRYING TO REPOSITION THE MIRROR.
RATHER THAN THAT...
RICHARD WAS INJURED TRYING TO PROTECT ME...!

Game Over Or Continue... scanned by Phantom (irc.irchighway.net)

Game Over Or Continue... scan by ccc@jpscan.net, game version archive by archiveway.net

I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO PLAY THE VIOLIN FOR A WHILE,
BUT THE DOCTOR SAID THAT IT'S NO IMPEDIMENT TO EVERYDAY TASKS
MORE IMPORTANTLY, I'M GLAD THAT SHOU'S NOT INJURED
Glance
Smile
THERE'LL BE NO MEANING TO YOUR COMING TO GERMANY IF YOU ARE INJURED BEFORE YOUR EXAMINATIONS
RICHARD IS SO KIND
RICHARD
Hmph

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NEUSCHWANSTEIN CASTLE, LINDERHOF CASTLE,
WE WANTED TO SHOW YOU AROUND TO THOSE PLACES AT LEAST...
THAT IT MAKES MY CHEST HURT...
THAT'S RIGHT
IT'S SUCH A PITY.
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE WITH MY ARM IN ITS CURRENT STATE.
TAKASHI, YOU'RE REALLY STRANGE...
NOWHERE IN PARTICULAR
IS THERE ANYWHERE THAT YOU'D LIKE TO GO?
I HAD WANTED TO LET RICHARD BRING YOU AROUND VIA CAR.
Even though it's still a bit cold.
SWISS ISN'T FAR FROM HERE, TOO...

Game Over Of Continue... geoc cjb.net *gameover@irc.irchighway.net

YOU CAME ALL THE WAY TO GERMANY FROM JAPAN AND HAVE NO INTEREST IN GOING ANYWHERE,
IT'S AS IF YOU CAME JUST TO SEE SHOU.
...!
STARE
TAKASHI?
LINK

Game Over Or Continue... geoc.cjb.net #gameover@irc.irchighway.net

BLUSH
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
THAT TAKASHI WHY...!
DID HE REALLY COME JUST TO SEE ME—?!
—THAT CAN'T BE TRUE
HEY...!
I WANTED TO GO BACK
BUT IN THE END,
I MISSED MY FLIGHT.

Love Over Continents ... .cojpt #amsever@irc.irchighway.net

I DON'T PARTICULARLY WANT TO
I DON'T MEAN TO NAG AT YOU LIKE AUNTIE, BUT ISN'T IT A WASTE?
YOU'VE COME ALL THE WAY TO GERMANY, SO YOU SHOULD VISIT THE ROMANTIC STREETS OR THE RHEIN RIVER
ANYWAY, YOU WON'T BE RETURNING TO JAPAN FOR SOME TIME, RIGHT?
P I S S E D.
What the heck did you come back for?!
IF I GO BACK HALFWAY, GRANDMA WILL DEFINITELY NAG ME TO DEATH
YEAH...
I'VE GOT TO STUDY HERE FOR FOUR, NO, FIVE TO SIX YEARS
HA HA HA HA HA

BECAUSE OF MY MOTHER,
GRANDMA,
I KNOW THAT YOU HAVE ALMOST NO GOOD MEMORIES OF YOUR TIME IN THAT HOUSE
YOUR OWN MOTHER.
FATHER...
AND ALSO...
ME.
WE CAUSED YOU SO MUCH PAIN...
I REALLY REGRET IT

Game Over Or Continue... gameover@ircchighway.net

EVERYONE DIDN'T ALLOW YOU TO LIVE FREELY.
SO WHILE YOU WERE IN JAPAN, YOU WERE LIKE A DYING FISH IN A SMALL CONTAINER—
...IT WAS PAINFUL TO WATCH YOU LIKE THAT.
THAT'S WHY, WHEN I HEARD ABOUT MR SCHNEIDER'S INVITATION TO YOU TO STUDY HERE,
I WAS SOMEWHAT RELIEVED
WHILE LISTENING TO YOUR PIANO PLAYING ON THE ROOF OF THE SCHOOL, I FAINTLY THOUGHT
THAT THE END HAD COME...
Game Over Or Continue...

Game Over Or Continue... gooc cjb.net #gameovercontinue.freehighway.net

BUT I WAS STILL DEPRESSED
EVEN THOUGH I SHOULD BE THINKING THAT THAT'S THE BEST ENDING
HOWEVER, I WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE A RELEASED
I THOUGHT THAT MAYBE WE'LL BE ABLE TO MEET EACH OTHER UNDER DIFFERENT CIRCUMSTANCES HERE IN GERMANY.
—THAT'S WHY I CAME TO SEE YOU
I CAME
TO SEE YOU
SHOU

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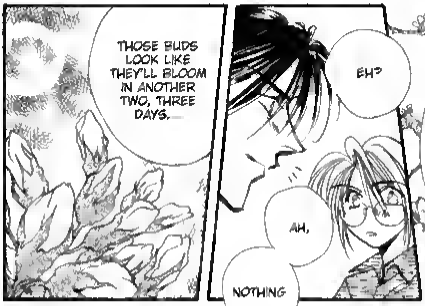
Game Over Or Continue... geno-cjb.net *gameover@iro-kirchighway-net

BUT NOW THAT ALL THAT HAS BEEN TAKEN AWAY, WHAT DO I REALLY FEEL?
THE ONE THAT I MOST COULDN'T SEE IS MY OWN HEART.
SURPRISE
HUH?
I AM.
ISN'T IT THE FEAR OF FINDING THE TRUTH THAT MADE ME FEEL LOST?

[Game Over Or Continue] irc.cjb.net #gameover@irc.irchighway.net


THOSE BUDS LOOK LIKE THEY'LL BLOOM IN ANOTHER TWO, THREE DAYS...
EH?
AH, NOTHING
MAYBE THIS WAS A COMMEMORATION OF SOME FRIENDSHIP, TOO...

Game Over Or Continue... gmoc@jb.net #gameover@irc.irchighway.net

I...
SHOU,
I WON'T COME TO GERMANY AGAIN
Stunned
ONLY, MAY I STAY HERE A LITTLE WHILE LONGER?
I'LL GO WHEN THIS SAKURA TREE BLOOMS
WHY AM I...
IF IT TROUBLES YOU THEN IT'S BETTER THAT I DON'T COME, RIGHT?
HUH..?

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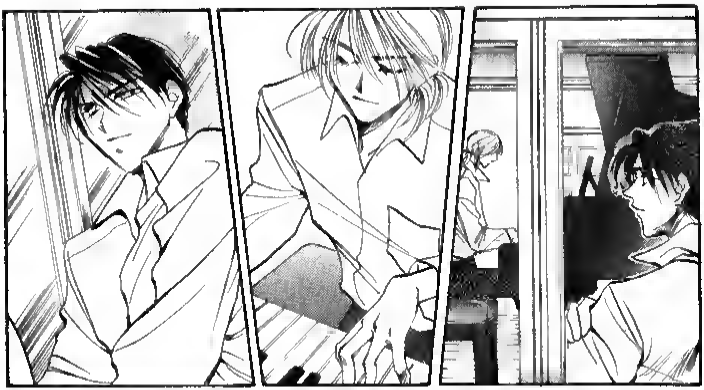
IF I?
BUT,
IF YOU—
NO
—ONCE AGAIN.

I AM
GOING TO GO BACK WITHOUT TELLING HIM ANY-THING.
IT'S NOTHING



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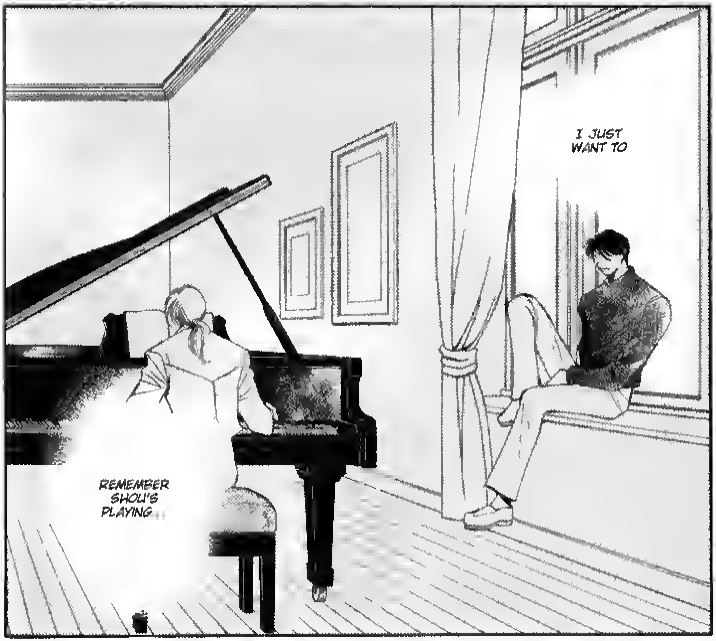
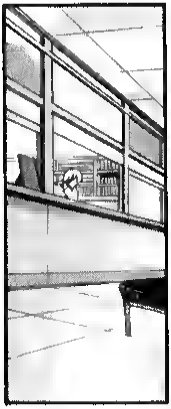

I JUST WANT TO
REMEMBER SHOU'S PLAYING...

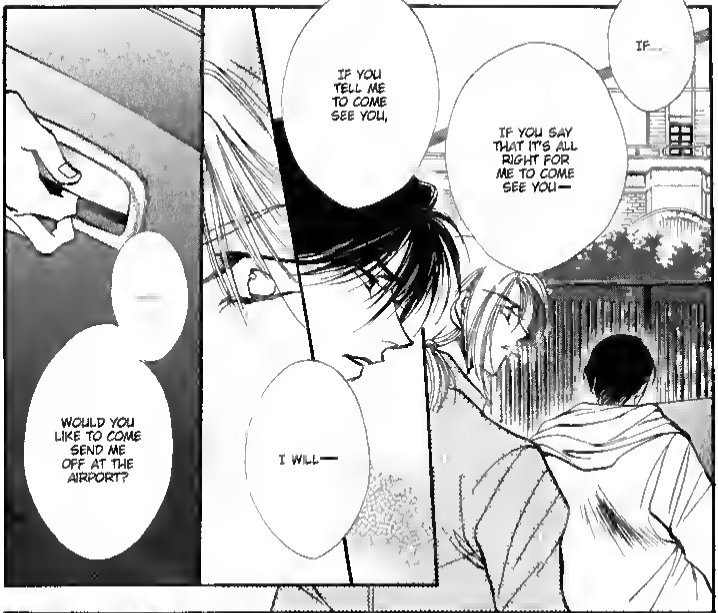
Guten Tag
GUTEN TAG
PLEASE GO IN



THE SAKURA HAS BLOOMED

I'VE SATISFIED MYSELF WITH LISTENING TO YOUR PLAYING
THE NEXT TIME WE MEET MAY BE IN SIX YEARS, HUH...
I'M GOING TO GO BACK AS PROMISED
TAKASHI...
IN SIX YEARS
I CAN'T IMAGINE IT
AT THAT TIME, WHAT WOULD BECOME OF THE TWO OF US...?
BUT

Game Over Or Continue... gone.cjb.net #gameover@irc.irchighway.net


IF...
IF YOU SAY THAT IT'S ALL RIGHT FOR ME TO COME SEE YOU—
IF YOU TELL ME TO COME SEE YOU,
I WILL—
WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME SEND ME OFF AT THE AIRPORT?

I'M GOING TO DROP BY THE HOTEL TO PICK UP MY LUGGAGE, THEN GO TO THE AIRPORT, SO
I HOPE THAT YOU CAN GO TO SEND ME OFF.
BUT IF YOU DON'T WANT TO, YOU DON'T HAVE TO.

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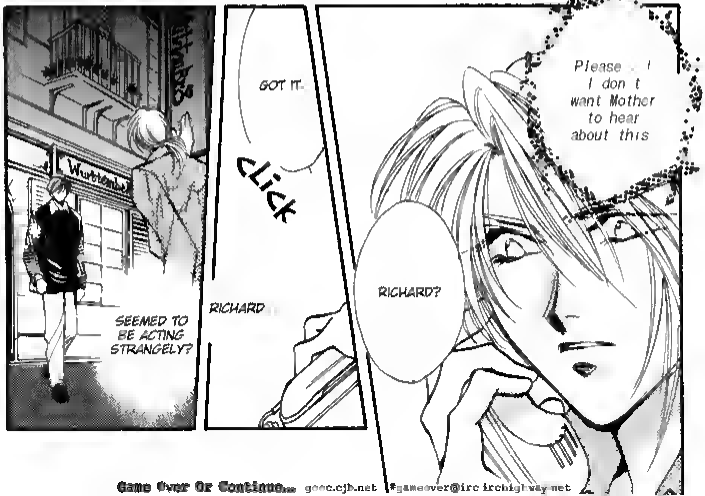
IF YOU DON'T COME, I WILL NEVER COME TO GERMANY AGAIN...
...BUT IF YOU DO,
—THERE'S SOMETHING
I WANT TO TELL YOU
TAKASHI...



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Game Over Or Continue... geocities.net "game_ver@hrc.rchu.jhway.net

Departing passengers please proceed to gate 8 to board
HE'S NOT COMING
HM
"SAYONARA" IS CALLED "ALIF WIEDERSEHEN" IN GERMAN.
ALIF WIE—?
SAYONARA, GRANDPA!!
HERE, HERE

Game Over Or Continue... gooc cjb.net *gameover@ircfront.inway.net

TODAY,
I WENT TO THE DOCTOR'S
WHEN I TOLD HIM I PLAY THE VIOLIN, HE SAID
THE INJURY WON'T AFFECT MY EVERYDAY LIFE, BUT PLAYING IS...
IT'S NOT DEFINITELY IMPOSSIBLE,
BUT IT MAY BE AN OBSTACLE.
BUT THAT'S ENOUGH TO MAKE ME FEEL LOST AND INSECURE...
—SHOU.

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エチュード／END

[MAGAZINE BE×BOY '97年10月号～12月号掲載]

Free Talk part.II

（➡P 193より続き）

そういうわけで才能云々の話を描くのに都合がいいのは芸術関係。それもやっぱりピアノなんていうのがいーですねぇ♡と、いうだけの理由でピアノ漫画になりました。（美術関係は自分の心が痛くなりそうなので避けました…）
しかしどういった弾みか途中から私は少女漫画（それも70年代の）と某お昼のメロドラマにハマってしまいすっかり路線がー…。
こうやって漫画とは自分の思惑とは違った方向に行くもんなんでしょうか。

ところでこのノクターン、何かと知識不足な音楽の世界の話ですのでいろんな方にアドバイスしていただき本当に助かりました。
ピアノを昔習ってた、または今もラブラブピアノというアシストちゃんたち。
ピアニストのMさんありがとうございます！
なんだかだんだんピアノマンガとは言えないんじゃないかという内容になってきてはいますがどうやらまだ続くらしいんで、また色々な助言をお願いします。

PS. このコミックスが出た後にＢＥＸＢＯＹできらに続きの話（予定ではいきなり６年後…その上笙とりヒャルトはデキてる…）を描く予定になっていたのですが、いきなり変更して海空（別に高群が描いてるシリーズのマンガ）になりました。
ま〜はたしてこのノクターンの続きを読みたい人がおるんかのう…？（私には謎です…）と思っているのできっと海空の方にしても許してくれるよね。ははははははっ♡
色々と諸事情があっての事なのですが、忘れた頃にノクターンの続き描くと思うので覚えてたらまた読んだって下さいね。それでは♡

高群　保

Game Over Or Continue... geno-cjb.net #gameover@iro-irchighway-net

ビーボーイコミックスをお買い
上げ頂きありがとうございます。
この本を読んでのご意見、ご感
想をお待ちしております。

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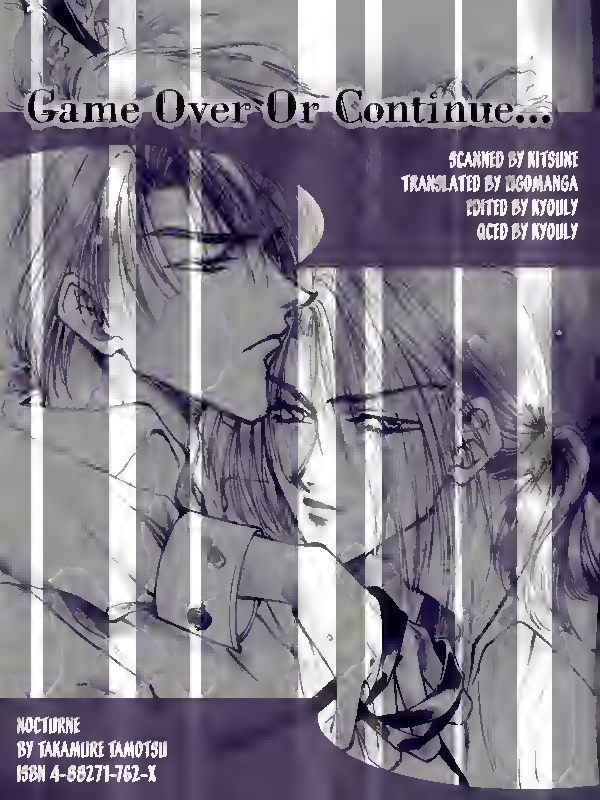

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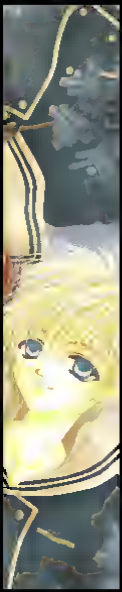

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